



Phone your family FREE at Christmas

Token 2 and details, page 48

If chefs are Class One, what are you? page 6

Definitive school league tables

SPECIAL SECTION

30

£100,000 FANTASY LEAGUE - CHECK YOUR SCORES TODAY - PAGES 24, 25

Brown to fight plan for savings levy
EU prepares bonfire of tax incentives

By CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS, ROLAND WATSON AND JANET BUSH

GORDON Brown will today concede for the first time that some British tax incentives which are out of step with the rest of the European Union may have to be scrapped.

The Chancellor will nod through a preliminary target list of 85 low business tax schemes in the 15 member states which are deemed unfair because they distort the EU marketplace.

The move, at today's meeting of finance ministers in Brussels, is certain to fuel the growing row over the future of taxation within the EU.

But Mr Brown will seek to deflect criticism from Eurosceptics by launching a strong British attempt to halt a move to impose a minimum tax on cross-border savings accounts.

The list of potentially unfair tax schemes has been drawn up by the EU's "code of conduct group" - a coalition of 17 EU member states - led by Mr Brown's junior ministerial colleague, Dawn Primarolo, the financial secretary to the Treasury.

They are the 85 schemes are British. They include tax incentives for the UK film industry and ship-repairing, low tax "enterprise zones" and a scheme for small and medium businesses in Northern Ireland.

Ms Primarolo's report is the first fruit of an agreement drawn up last December, and backed by Tony Blair, to eliminate unfair practices in corporate taxation that cause "distortions" to the single market by

attracting investment at the expense of other EU states.

All EU states except Austria are deemed to be running versions of such schemes, according to the group. These range from tax incentives for foreign investors in Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands and elsewhere, to low taxes for farmers and forestry companies in Germany and regional schemes in Spain.

Eurosceptic critics see the tax package, due for completion under Germany's EU chairmanship next June, as a first step towards the tax harmonisation which is being pushed hard by Bonn and the other socialised governments that dominate the EU.

According to Graham Mathias, MEP and the Tory economic spokesman in the European Parliament, the "main aim" of the plan is to "level the playing field" across the EU.

He said: "Britain's independence on tax policy will disappear. The rest will be political. It's impossible because it would destroy our claim to be at the heart of Europe."

In the run-up to today's meeting of EU finance ministers, Downing Street tried to defuse the growing row over the looming "harmonisation" of EU taxes following the introduction of the single currency.

The Prime Minister's spokesman insisted there was no question of Britain having to impose VAT on goods, such as children's clothes and food, which currently enjoy zero-rating. Mr Brown will also try today to demonstrate the Government's independence by opposing a plan to levy a minimum 20 per cent tax on savings and investment income

on bank accounts held by EU citizens in states outside their country of residence.

But the Government is determined not to get itself boxed in to a position where it has to threaten to use the veto, which would carry echoes of the Thatcher and Major approach to Europe.

Instead, Downing Street insisted the Government would "negotiate constructively" to seek changes and ensure the move does not affect the City's Eurobond market.

The Government's stand on the bond market follows predictions from the City that business in Eurobonds, worth billions of pounds, would flee to fiscally more friendly climes in Switzerland, the Caribbean and elsewhere. A new tax could cause huge losses for investors because bond issuers could invoke technical rules to "null back" their issues.

Judith Mayhew, Chairman of Policy and Resources at the Corporation of London which has been leading the fight to save the Eurobond market, said last night that she was delighted with indications that the "Chancellor was taking such a firm line in the interests of the City".

She said that a formal "No" to the withholding at today's ECOFIN meeting would be an important statement of principle that the Government had recognised the importance of the City. The Corporation has warned that a European withholding tax would lose the City more than 10,000 jobs with global banks already indicating that they would move their huge Eurobond operations back to New York if the tax were to be exacted.



Stephen Fry who played Wilde in the recent film with the Maggi Hambling statue

Wilde still catching out the establishment

By ALAN HAMILTON

FOR nearly a century Middle Britain has felt unable fully to celebrate Oscar Wilde's genius because of what he went to Reading jail for.

On the 98th anniversary of his death yesterday, public attitudes to homosexuality had softened sufficiently to allow the unveiling of the first statue to Wilde in Britain, tucked behind Trafalgar Square.

But, however much pink power may have permeated the upper reaches of government in the last 18 months, there are those who still dare not speak its name, particularly BBC newsreaders.

Nigel Hawthorne, the gay star of Yes Prime Minister and the Madness Of King George had just done a reading with Dame Judi Dench from Wilde's A Woman Of No Importance at the statue's unveiling when he was interviewed live from the scene by Ed Stourton on BBC TV lunchtime news. The bulletin had earlier featured an item on allegations surrounding a recent visit to Rio de Janeiro by Peter Mandelson, the Trade Secretary.



Nigel Hawthorne: "You're missing the whole point"

you don't mind, want to talk about specific individuals." But Mr Hawthorne persisted. "If you don't talk about individuals, then you miss the whole point of this. I think that it's purely that society picks on these individuals and turns them into martyrs very often, which is exactly what happened to Oscar Wilde."

Several prominent and self-confessed homosexuals, including Chris Smith, the Heritage Secretary, and Stephen Fry, the actor who played Wilde in the recent film biography, were present at the unveiling of the statue, a granite slab in the form of a sarcophagus by Maggi Hambling, which invites passers-by to sit on it and engage in conversation with Wilde's bronze head and hands. The sculpture was the idea of Derek Jarman, the proselytising homosexual film director who died in 1994.

Wilde, naturally, has the last laugh. On the end of the plinth which shows him reclining and gazing up at the sky, is inscribed one of his many enduring sparklers: "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars."

Judges blame student for his paralysis and halt £1m award

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A PROMISING student who was left paralysed for life after diving into a college swimming pool with friends had his damages award worth an estimated £1 million removed by three judges yesterday after they held that he was to blame for his injuries.

In a ruling which may set a new tough line on compensation claims, the Court of Appeal said Luke Ratcliff, now 23, was not entitled to his award because he was entirely responsible for the event which left him in a wheelchair. The appeal judges also left no doubt that those who indulge in horseplay or high jinks after drinking are likely to be regarded as having only themselves to blame if they are injured.

They quashed a High Court ruling that Mr Ratcliff, from Cambridge, was entitled to an award, even though he would have to bear 40 per cent of the damages. But even a 60 per cent payout could have given him more than £1 million. Now he will receive nothing.

Simon John, partner with Cunningham John, solicitors for Mr Ratcliff, said last night that the cost of care would now have to be met by council tax payers as it would have to be provided by Cambridgeshire. "The family have no money so it will fall to the council, who are already caring for Luke in special accommodation."

There has been growing criticism of damages awards and fears of a growth in a US-style litigation culture in which people seek to blame someone for whatever ill luck befalls them.

In a warning to anyone tempted to indulge in horseplay after drinking, Lords Justice Stuart-Smith, Thorpe and Mummery, sitting in the Court of Appeal in London, said that the 1994 accident at the Harper Adams Agricultural College, in Newport, Shropshire, had the "most appalling consequences". Mr Ratcliff

was left tetraplegic after hitting his head on the bottom of the pool.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said: "A promising life is now destined to be spent in a wheelchair. It is impossible not to have great sympathy with him." But he added: "It is unfortunate that a number of high-spirited young men will take serious risks with their own safety and do things that they know are forbidden.

"Often they are disinhibited by drink and the encouragement of their friends. It is the danger and the fact that it is forbidden that provides the thrill. But if the risk materialises, they cannot blame others for their rashness."

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said the accident happened in the early hours of December 8, 1994, when Mr Ratcliff, then aged 19, and two friends climbed over a 6ft boundary wall and dived into the open-air pool at the college after attending a disco.

Lord Justice Stuart-Smith said: "The plaintiff was a very frank witness. The admissions he made in my judgment make it impossible for him to succeed."



Ratcliff confined to wheelchair for life

Blair boys' school surging ahead

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

THE West London comprehensive where Tony Blair sends his sons is one of the most improved schools in England, according to examination league tables published by the Government today.

Barely half of the GCSE candidates at the London Oratory School, in Fulham, achieved five high-grade passes when the Blairs applied for a place for their elder son Euan. Almost nine out of ten reached this threshold this summer.

An assessment of the most improved schools, produced by the Department for Education and Employment, placed the London Oratory in the top ten. Only five state schools bettered its rise of 26 percentage points since 1995, four of them technology colleges.

The Roman Catholic school,

which is now attended by both the Prime Minister's sons, won a record 17 places at Oxford and Cambridge universities this summer.

There are four applications to every place at the school. Three of the 15 City Technology Colleges, established by the Conservative government, are among the four most improved state schools. They are led only by the Jeff Squire School, in Trafford, which has increased the proportion of GCSE candidates with five good passes from 7 per cent to 35 per cent since 1995.

The overall pass rate in England for five GCSEs at grade C or above has risen from 45.1 per cent to 46.3 per cent.

Schools supplement... 16

LETTERS... WEATHER... CROSSWORDS... LIBBY PURVES... ARTS... CHESS & BRIDGE... COURT & SOCIAL... LAW REPORT... BUSINESS... SPORT

The Times overseas... Subscriptions... Advertising... Copyright... Printed in Great Britain



One hour can change a lifetime.

See page 7

CHILDREN'S PROMISE THE MILLENNIUM FINAL HOUR APPEAL

A shiny new star for an old show that goes on and on

THE Baron formerly known as Melvyn has just launched a new career. Lord Bragg, who until recent used to Start the Week at BBC Radio 4, tried his hand yesterday at what was, for him, a new chat-show: the discussion programme from Hell. They call it "Their Lordships' House".

It's on every afternoon, the ratings are abysmal and the quality dire. Two journalists were there to hear him yesterday on a Monday morning at 9.00 he could count on scores. Novelist, broadcaster, columnist, thinker... he had it all. But then what do you give a man who has everything? A life peccage.

Lord Bragg's maiden speech yesterday was a kind of Start the Session. For most Westminster politicians, the two Houses' daytime TV chat-shows are the only show which will have them on. Bragg sat among the dandruffed deadbeats looking out of place. Bright-eyed in a trim and modern two-piece suit, his purple tie was perfectly New Labour and his hair won-

derfully à la James Dean. The show (or "debate", as peers quaintly call it) was Education, Environment and Agriculture, three words in whose very cadence there is something deathly. Bragg, though, can make science interesting. We longed for him to take charge.

But could even Melvyn Bragg make this sing? Imagine: "My panel today includes two bishops, a shower of super-annuated company directors, at least one former Chairman of the Coal Board, and a doc-



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

ent hack politicians put out to grass. There are no time limits to the speeches, everyone will be discussing the favourite bees in their bonnets, and the programme will go on for at least four hours."

I pictured Bragg competing in that vast, Gothic studio, struggling to keep the show under control — his producer,

efficient. He scarcely moves his mouth when he speaks and does not waste precious calories by lifting his head from his speechnotes. Saving decibels, he never raises his voice. But at last his speech seemed to be nearing its end. "And I have four proposals to make," he droned. Reporters slumped in their seats in despair.

Through the imagined glass screen I could picture Bragg's producer miming "wind this up" in the traditional broadcasting manner, with

a rotating fist. "Statutory guidance on social and environmental objectives..." he mumbled, head down.

"Shut him up!" — you could almost hear the scream in Bragg's headphones. "It now seems clear that a Utilities Performance Bill is unlikely to be initiated in this session..."

Now the producer was wildly chopping the side of one hand on to the palm of the other — the acknowledged sign for "cut".

"My third recommendation relates to the Non Fossil Fuel

Regulation Scheme..." — and there was nothing Bragg could do. He waited, notes for this, his Maiden Speech, in hand. Finally, his chance came. It was a thoughtful speech, with some genuine new ideas for experiment and training in television. Lord Bragg never once mentioned the past; failed to bang on about his own distinguished record; and sat down within minutes.

Far too snappy. It was actually interesting. This will never do, my Lord.

Hit squads to tackle failing care homes

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS will be able to send in "hit squads" to take over failing care homes for the elderly, children or the mentally ill, under the most far-reaching overhaul of the social services system in 30 years.

The reforms, part of a £3 billion package announced yesterday by Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, are designed to prevent abuse of children and elderly people in residential homes and to improve care services for people in their own homes.

Mr Dobson told the Commons yesterday that standards of care and management in social services had to improve and that more training of social care staff was needed. "There are many top-quality services but all too often social services are failing to provide the support that people in need are entitled to expect. The new arrangements should make sure that anyone receiving social services help, whether young or old, whether living at home or in residential accommodation, is protected from neglect, abuse or exploitation," he said.

The aim is to replace the current patchy system of regulation, with a more consistent and coherent regime. At present, regulation is divided between local authorities, health authorities and the Department of Health centrally. Some services — such as councils' own care homes, small children's homes and care given to people in their own homes — are not subject to any regulation. The effect will be to create greater central control over locally provided services.

The White Paper proposes the creation of a Commission for Care Standards in each English region to regulate public and private sector care services provided to people in their own homes and in residential homes and to inspect private

fostering agencies. The commissions will have the power to serve enforcement notices on homes or service providers who are not meeting expected standards. They will also be able to remove homes from local authority registers.

The ultimate sanction will be to report a home to the Secretary of State, who will have the discretion to send in a squad to take over the facility, or send in a team of advisers.

Regional Children's Rights Officers will be appointed to inspect children's homes and make sure children are properly protected. The Children's Rights Officers, who will report directly to the Chief Inspector of Social Services, will also ensure that the views of children in care are heard.

A General Social Care Council will be established to ensure the proper regulation and training of social care workers. One of its first tasks will be to develop codes of conduct.

National standards of performance will be set for local authorities, which will be required to publish annual reports on whether they have achieved them.

The £3 billion for the reforms includes £380 million for improving children's services, £750 million to help develop the independence and dignity of social service users and carers, £185 million in mental health services provided by social services and £20 million for staff training.

Charities representing children, the elderly and the disabled gave the White Paper a general welcome, but there was disappointment that none of its provisions would become law for at least two years. There was disappointment too from children's rights campaigners that Mr Dobson had rejected their calls for the creation of a national Children's Rights Commissioner.



The Chilean Foreign Minister José Insulza leaving the Ministry of Defence yesterday after meeting Mr Robertson

Robertson tells Chilean minister Straw will decide Pinochet's fate

By MICHAEL EVANS AND JOANNA BAILE

GEORGE ROBERTSON, the Defence Secretary, gave no hint of the fate awaiting General Augusto Pinochet, the former Chilean dictator, when he met the country's Foreign Minister yesterday.

Despite the threat to arms exports to Chile, Mr Robertson told José Insulza that the question of whether to free General Pinochet or agree to his extradition to Spain on charges of genocide, was out of his hands.

Señor Insulza, who has seen Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, and Peter Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, during his visit to lobby government ministers for the release of General Pinochet, left for Madrid yesterday morning.

Mr Robertson told him that the issue was not a matter for collective Cabinet discussion but was now solely in the hands of Jack Straw, the Home Secretary. Despite Mr

BACKBENCHERS STEP UP PRESSURE

Labour backbenchers stepped up the pressure on Jack Straw to send General Pinochet to Spain to face trial. Clive Soley, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, submitted to the Home Secretary that most Labour MPs wished to see extradition. Mr Soley argued that the Law Lords judgment put down a marker in international law, which should be followed by ensuring that General Pinochet faced trial. "It is important that dictators cannot get away with the crimes of genocide and torture." The PLP submission follows a similar message from the cross-party Parliamentary Human Rights Group.

Robertson's polite refusal to talk further on the subject, there is concern at the MoD that if there is any long-term damage to relations with Chile, it will put in jeopardy a number of arms deals.

A visit by two Chilean admirals to discuss buying a couple of frigates from the Royal Navy was cancelled two weeks ago. The Royal Navy will have three Broadsword class frigates for sale from next year. HMS *Beaver*, HMS *Boxer* and HMS *London*. Chile had been viewed as the most likely

customer. To underscore the sensitivities, Doug Henderson, the Armed Forces Minister, who was to visit Santiago this week to meet his Chilean counterpart, was told the trip was cancelled.

The reason given was that the Defence Minister was "out of the country". But it was assumed in London that that was a diplomatic excuse for cancelling the visit.

Also at stake in the arms export business is a sale of fighter aircraft to Chile. The Chilean Air Force has a require-

ment for about 25 new fighters. British Aerospace is keen to sell the Chileans the Gripen aircraft which it manufactures with Saab. If BAe were to win the contract, about 40 per cent of the export order would be built in Britain.

The psychiatric hospital where the general has been recovering from spinal surgery and receiving treatment for a stress disorder has asked him to leave, it confirmed yesterday.

Grovelands Priory Hospital in North London said that the former dictator no longer needs its specialist on-site care and is well enough to continue his rehabilitation at home.

Señor Insulza arrived in Madrid from London yesterday and immediately went to the defence ministry where anxious Spanish officials feared they would lose a series of major arms contracts in reprisal for the Pinochet affair.

Mr Straw will announce his decision on December 11.

Spain and Britain tell EU how to make jobs

By PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR

BRITAIN yesterday formed a new alliance with Spain's right-wing government to call on the European Union to create jobs by reforming its labour markets and avoiding over-regulation.

Tony Blair joined Jose Maria Aznar, the Spanish prime minister, to make the joint declaration ahead of next week's Vienna summit. The statement will be seen to challenge the more regulated approach favoured by Germany's finance minister, and other EU governments.

They wrote to Austria's Viktor Klima, the current EU president, and other heads of state urging the EU to follow restructuring policies adopted in Britain and Spain, including those on education on welfare. Downing Street said that the joint declaration showed that Mr Blair would work constructively with any government in the EU if it was in Britain's interests.

Asked whether it was ironic that Mr Blair had had to join forces with a conservative government, an official said that Britain was also co-operating with France over policies to boost entrepreneurship and with the German government over the "Third Way".

However, the move also appeared to be a further reflection of Britain's concern at signs that some European governments, notably Germany and France, are giving flexible markets a lower priority than are Britain and Spain, which were responsible for three quarters of the new jobs created in the EU last year.

The Government was concerned at signs at the Austrian summit in October that some leaders favoured boosting employment through expensive job creation schemes.

Mr Blair and Mr Aznar decided to make the joint job push several months ago, in a speech relayed by video to a Spanish-British employment conference in Seville recently. Mr Blair said: "Our two governments come from different political traditions but I believe this is an area of policy where the UK and Spain have much in common."

NEWS IN BRIEF Documents test for benefits

People claiming welfare benefits will no longer receive them unless they can provide documentary evidence that they need state hand-outs, under a new clampdown on benefit cheats to be outlined today. The measure is to be introduced after officials discovered that up to one third of all claims for Disability Living Allowance (DLA) were awarded without the production of any written evidence. There is no suggestion of widespread fraudulent claims for DLA.

Lawyer sued

Two of the Birmingham Six wrongly convicted for the 1974 pub bombings are suing Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, QC, for libel over suggestions in a recent book that their case was not the miscarriage of justice it was held to be. Sir Louis' publishers, Gerald Duckworth, are suing him for alleged breach of contract.

Irvine blunder

Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, is in breach of a court order for failing to lodge papers in time in a case being brought against him at an industrial tribunal alleging sex and racial discrimination in the appointment of Garry Hart, his special adviser. The hearing is set for March 22. Law, page 41.

Anti-hunt push

Campaigners against hunting launched a fresh drive for a countryside ban by 2000. Celebrities including Sir Paul McCartney, Sir John Gielgud, Angus Deayton and All Saints supported the latest effort by the Campaign for the Protection of Hunted Animals to secure government commitment for parliamentary time.

Flight centre delay

A new national air traffic control centre, already five years behind schedule, faces further delay unless new managers are brought in to oversee the project, a report to MPs said. Computer problems have hampered the £475 million centre at Swanwick, Hampshire, which is now due to open in winter 2001-02.

Personal loan rates from **10.1% APR.** Call Direct Line.

- You'll have fixed, low monthly payments.
- No compulsory insurance, arrangement fee or complicated paper work.
- No security or deposit required.
- Call now for an instant decision on loans from £1,000 to £25,000.

0181 680 9966 **0161 831 9966** **0141 248 9966**
LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME from 9am Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. www.directline.com/loans Please quote ref. NTT42

Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 256 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5NA. You must be aged 23 or over and have a regular income (proofable in respect). Subject to status. Some contracts at 10th November 1998. Available in England, Scotland and Wales. Western questions on request. Calls recorded and routinely monitored. Direct Line and the red phone on wheels are the trademarks of Direct Line Insurance plc, used with its permission.

Ministers pledge action against fine defaulters

Continued from page 1

to the addresses of benefit claimants who have failed to pay fines.

One well-placed source said: "It simply cannot be right that people are able to receive hand-outs from one arm of government while owing money to another."

The level of outstanding fines stood at £270 million at the end of 1997. During 1996/7, about £51.7 million in uncollected fines was written off.

The move is also fuelled by fears that the extent to which individuals are ignoring financial penalties is threatening the status of the fine as a form of punishment.

Under the Access to Justice Bill, unveiled in last week's Queen's Speech, responsibility

for enforcing fines is to be transferred from the police to magistrates courts.

The proposals have already sparked hostility because they would allow private security firms rather than the police to pursue the vast majority of fine defaulters.

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's department insisted that any changes were aimed at fine dodgers rather than those who had fallen on hard times.

Negotiations on the issue are expected to start when the Bill starts its passage through Parliament. But social security officials made clear last night that they could not be expected to release information to another department just because public money was at stake. A

spokesman said that under the terms of the Data Protection Act and the Social Security Act, there were "very firm constraints on when we can release information to other departments". The department is only entitled to "data-matched" when it has a statutory duty, for instance where there is a court order under the Fraud Act, or where there is overwhelming public interest.

Geoff Hoon, the Minister for Legal Affairs, said fine-defaulting presented the Government with an opportunity to show it could break down traditional walls between Whitehall departments. "Obviously, if magistrates believe fines are not being paid, they are less likely to be using fines as a sentence," he said.

Weetabix breaks Tories' fast on political funding

By MARK INGLEFIELD, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE breakfast cereal company Weetabix has emerged as the Tories' main corporate backer in a new survey on party political funding.

The company contributed £274,000 to the Conservatives' election fund before the 1997 poll, the largest donation made by an individual company in that period.

The survey carried out by Labour Research, a union-funded group independent of the Labour Party, examines only corporate donations, not those by individuals. It found that corporate support for the Tories has dwindled.

Before the 1992 election 351 companies gave the party £4.86 million, but that figure

fell to £2.8 million by 1997, with only 231 pledging monetary support.

That was still more than twice as much as the £1.2 million Labour received from public companies during 1997 and 1998. Most of that, around £1 million, came from the Political Animal Lobby organisation, which had hoped it would legislate against hunting. Among other smaller donors, Labour received £24,838 from the rock band Oasis's record company, Creation. Caledonian Mines gave Labour £20,000 last year, but before that had given the Tories more than £250,000 over a 12-year period.

The majority of the Liberal

Democrats' funding came from the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust, which gave more than £100,000. The Political Animal Lobby group also gave them £50,000.

Neal Moister, of Labour Research, said: "Stock-exchange companies are dropping out of donating to the Tories. Some felt their industries were being hit by government policy."

The survey was undertaken after the inquiry into the funding of political parties by the Committee on Standards in Public Life. Headed by Lord Neill of Bladen, it recommended that political parties must reveal the name of any donor contributing more than £5,000.

604 REGENERATED

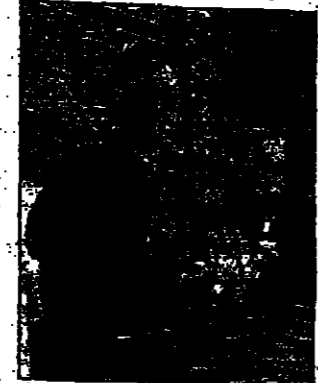
SHELTERED HOUSING FOR OTTERS. While repairing £300,000 of flood damaged embankment at Welney Marshes, we replaced the otter population's natural 'holes' with specially built shelters. www.railtrack.co.uk

RAILTRACK
The heart of the railway

Tatchell denies 'unseemly' church protest

BY RICHARD DUCE

THE gay rights activist Peter Tatchell violated the sanctity of Canterbury Cathedral with "unseemly and indecorous" behaviour when he stormed the pulpit during the Archbishop's Easter Sunday sermon this year, a court was told yesterday.



Tatchell stormed pulpit while Carey was speaking

Trailed by half a dozen supporters from the protest group Outrage, Mr Tatchell moved in front of Dr George Carey and, addressing the congregation of 2,000, claimed that the Archbishop had discriminated against lesbian and gays.

Mr Tatchell, 46, is being prosecuted under Section 2 of the rarely used Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act of 1860 and, if convicted, could be jailed for up to two months.

vision" but meant, in simple terms, that any person guilty of riotous, violent and indecent behaviour in England, in any cathedral church, during a celebration of divine service or at any other time, is liable to a penalty.

Calls for abolition of archaic Act

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE National Secular Society is campaigning to abolish the law under which Peter Tatchell is being prosecuted.

The Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdiction Act 1860 makes it a criminal offence, punishable by two months in prison, to "molest, let, disturb, vex, or trouble, or by any other unlawful means disquiet or misuse" any clergyman carrying out his duties in a church or churchyard of the Church of England. It also states that "any person who shall be guilty of riotous, violent, or indecent behaviour in England or Ireland in any cathedral church, parish or district church, or chapel of the Church of England" can be jailed for two months. The law also applies to other Christian, mosque and synagogue.

in a time when sectarianism in the non-conformist churches ran high and churches were often the scene of angry disputes over religious doctrine. It is believed to have been used last against a couple found having sex in a Cambridge churchyard in 1992.

In 1966 the Act was used against people at a Vietnam War protest at a Methodist church during the Labour Party conference in Brighton. One of the protesters, Nicholas Walter, who was sentenced to two months' jail, later became a vice-president of the National Secular Society.

The campaign to have the act repealed is supported by the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Right Rev Richard Holloway, the playwright Harold Pinter and the author Ludovic Kennedy.

when Mr Tatchell walked down the cathedral aisle and into the pulpit. His followers stood on the pulpit steps displaying placards which said "Carey backs gay marriage ban" and "Carey opposes equal age of consent".

Mr Tatchell told the congregation: "Dr Carey supports discrimination against lesbian and gay people. He opposes lesbian and gay equal rights. This is not Christian teaching." The three-minute protest, during which Mr Tatchell grabbed the pulpit microphone, was captured by a BBC camera crew. Video footage was played to the court.

Mr Tatchell was eventually led down from the pulpit by Police Superintendent John Grace, who pried his fingers from the microphone — by then switched off by the head usher — and he was taken to Canterbury police station.

Mr Montague told the court that the Ecclesiastical Court Act, formerly part of the Brawling Act of 1551, was "to prevent creation of disturbance in a sacred place. The words 'indecent' bear no sexual connotation. . . . By coming to Canterbury Cathedral with his associates, and by acting in such a way to interrupt the Archbishop's sermon, he embarked on what may be termed 'inappropriate behaviour': inappropriate to the time and the place. It was unseemly, it was indecorous. He is not being prosecuted on any views he may hold."

Mark Pimton, the Archbishop's lawyer for the service, described his shock at the protest. "Some of the congregation started to shout 'Get out.' People were quite distressed that this had disturbed what, for the Christian Church, is one of the holiest days of the year."

In an interview with police Mr Tatchell, who denies the charge, said the intention had been for a brief non-violent protest. He told the court: "I didn't attack the Christian religion, I simply said Dr Carey opposed lesbian and gay human rights." Mr Tatchell intends to call the Labour MP Tony Benn today as a character witness in his defence.



Grimsby Four: front, Mick and Jackie King, top left, earlier winner Roy Gibney and right, Bernie Finn.

Miracle town's fourth jackpot

Paul Wilkinson on Grimsby's winning streak and the strange tale of two workmates facing the dole

A MONTH ago two workmates were commiserating with each other over losing their jobs. Now they are both multi-millionaires, having won the Lottery jackpot within four weeks of each other.

Bernie Finn won £3.1 million on November 4, and last Saturday his friend Mick King scooped the £14 million rollover. Last night William Hill's, the bookmakers, estimated the chances of it happening again at 24.5 billion to one.

The win, which Mr King, 48, shares with his wife Jackie, is the fifth largest since the National Lottery started four years ago. They are also the fourth set of jackpot winners from Grimsby, Lincolnshire. The first was Eva Robinson who, in November 1994, was also the Lottery's first jackpot winner.

finery site at Immingham. Last month, faced with their contracts coming to an end, they were bemoaning their fate.

Mr King said: "I told Bernie that we should get out of this game because there wasn't enough work. We had both just been laid off again and I was out of work for another three weeks before I got another contract."

"Bernie and I work in a pretty cut-throat business and we were both down about it. One minute you have a job and the next, you are looking for something else and worrying about where the money will be coming from."

that, Mr Finn, 42, had become a millionaire. Mr King said: "I was really pleased when I heard that Bernie had won, but what has happened to us is just unbelievable."

Mr King's wife Jackie, 42, did not tell her husband about the jackpot when she rang him on Saturday night at his new job at an Essex oil refinery. Instead she just told him that they had won around £300,000 after getting five numbers and the bonus ball.

He said: "I don't tell lies but I didn't tell Mick the truth when he phoned. I didn't want him driving home knowing the amount we had really won."

thought it was strange when I got home and Jackie told me to sit down. When she told me how much she had won, I just couldn't take it in, I was almost in tears. You expect that when a town gets one jackpot winner that's it and if it gets two then that's definitely it. But now there have been four in the same town. It's amazing."

They won after Mrs King bought two lines instead of their usual single lucky dip ticket. "Lucky for us, it was the second line that won," she said. Now the couple, who have two sons, Russell, 9, and James, 6, plan to move house and take a holiday before deciding what to do with their fortune.

Mr King wants to buy shares in his beloved Grimsby Town football club, but so far has resisted pressure from his son James to buy David Beckham for the team . . .

Prison for man who would not give blood after crash

By SUE LAPPAMAN

A MAN was jailed for five months yesterday for refusing to give a blood specimen after an accident that killed a seven-year-old girl's family and left her with facial injuries.

An inquest found the crash, which orphaned Emma Lucas six months ago, was an accident but a magistrate found Martin Rose, 38, guilty of refusing to give a blood specimen after his van collided with the family's car near Smeeth, Kent. Emma's father, Peter, 65, and mother, Trudy, 34, died at the scene. Her brother, James, 10, died soon after and Emma had every bone in her face broken.

Police at the scene had smelt alcohol on Rose's breath and he had admitted he had been drinking lager. Ashford Magistrates' Court was told that the accident occurred three months after Rose had ended a previous disqualification for drink-driving.

Rose, a shopkeeper from Smeeth, was taken to a hospital for a specimen of blood to be taken for analysis but he refused and demanded to see a lawyer. Jolyon Holden, for the defence, said the incident had had a damaging effect on Rose's family life and he had hardly driven since.

"His children have been spat on in the street and he has had people driving up to the house and shouting offensive remarks," he said. "He has had damage caused to his shops. Yet as far as the accident was concerned there was no blame apportioned to my client. Sending this man to prison will not in any sense punish him for what had occurred because the deaths were not his fault."

Valerie Dawes, the presiding magistrate, told Rose: "This was the third offence of a like nature within six years and for three of those years you were off the road."

"You have shown total disregard for the driving laws in relation to alcohol and have failed to respond to non-custodial penalties in the past. The court has decided the offence is so serious only custody can deal with it."

Davies suspect tries to sell story

By STEWART TINKLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE Rastafarian accused of robbing Ron Davies, the former Welsh Secretary, is offering his story for sale to newspapers for £30,000.

Twelve days ago the Crown Prosecution Service dropped a robbery charge against Donald Fearon, 38, after a senior lawyer decided there was insufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction.

The decision meant that the events which led to Mr Davies' resignation would never be publicly examined. Now Mr Fearon could raise new questions about the mystery of the minister's fall from grace. Yesterday Philip Cremin, Mr Fearon's lawyer, said he had instructions that his client wanted to tell his story for cash. Mr Cremin, a senior member of a law firm in Britain, South London, said Mr Fearon was offering "his side of the story of his relationship with Mr Davies".

Mr Cremin said his client was looking for about £30,000 and any bids or proposals should be made in writing.

The lawyer was asked what could be worth £30,000 since the robbery involved a few hours on the night Mr Davies was attacked.

Mr Cremin said: "I did not say it was one night. You did." He said his client was not a criminal benefiting from his crimes. He was entitled to sell his story because the case was dropped. So far there have been no offers.

Mr Fearon, of no fixed address, was arrested several days after Mr Davies was robbed in Britain on October 26. Four other men and a woman questioned and bailed by police have been told they will not face charges.

In public Mr Davies, who resigned personally to the Prime Minister, over what he described as a "lapse of judgment" has denied sex was involved in the attack, but he admitted to police that he had been looking for homosexual sex on Clapham Common before being threatened and robbed of his car and possessions.

Church pays for boy hit by piano

By SUSIE STEINER

A BOY who suffered head injuries when an upright piano toppled on him in a Baptist church accepted a £725,000 settlement in the High Court yesterday.

Tyrone Atiba-Davies was nine when he visited the Clapham Baptist Church in South London with his mother in the summer of 1990. He made his way to the first floor main hall where a piano stood with its keyboard against the wall.

Wanting to play it, the boy tried to pull the piano out but it tipped over, pinning his legs to the floor. His skull was fractured and since the accident he has suffered epilepsy, double vision, loss of memory and learning difficulties.

The deans and trustees of the church admitted liability for the accident in 1995 and yesterday agreed to pay £725,000 in damages after the boy's father, Patrick, agreed to drop the original claim of £1.5 million. Tyrone's mother, Claudia, died in 1993 and Mr Atiba-Davies, 55, gave up his career as a children's home manager to look after his son. The court heard that Tyrone, a twin, had suffered hearing difficulties before the accident but was doing well enough at school and was regarded as a "bright little boy".

When he was undergoing surgery after the accident, doctors discovered he had been suffering from hydrocephalus since birth. This and his epilepsy meant there had been frequent hospital admissions.

His counsel, John Reddihough, said that he now had acute learning difficulties and was trying to learn basic skills at college in South London. He cannot remember directions and gets lost frequently, although he can now find his way to and from college having followed the route so many times. He was unlikely to ever find work.

Mr Justice Toulson, approving the settlement, said: "I am perfectly satisfied that all that can fairly and reasonably be done has been done. I can only offer my best wishes to this family for the future."

Women pitch in with under-15s

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

ENGLAND'S women cricketers are hoping to sharpen their competitive edge by taking on the boys' under-15 national team.

The match would be part of the women's preparations for next summer's tour of India, where they hope to atone for a 5-0 drubbing in the one-day internationals against Australia last summer.

Barbara Daniels, the England vice-captain, said yesterday: "It is certainly a possible future. It is a question of availability of dates." Asked why the women wanted to play the women than adults, she said: "You would not ask a top woman tennis player to meet Pete Sampras. It is all about strength and power. I would not want to be up against fast bowlers such as Curtly Ambrose or Glenn McGrath."

rah Potter, a journalist and former England Test player. "It is not at all demeaning to play against boys aged 14. You learn a lot, particularly in facing pace bowling of boys."

She pointed out that Mike Gatting, the former England captain, who had coached the women's team, had recommended more games against males and that already matches had been held against county under-17 teams. Ms Potter said Gatting felt that the women possessed the necessary technique but needed extra physical qualities. The boys, too, would benefit from the fixture. "It will help to concentrate their minds."

Ms Potter said that when she bowled for Herefordshire City Sports in the Three Counties men's league, opposing batsmen would be "terrified of getting out to me because they were facing a woman. I was regarded as only slow to medium in men's cricket whereas in the female game I was a fast bowler."



Daniels would not want to face Curtly Ambrose

an Lara, the record-breaking West Indies batsman, had been dismissed by Zoe Goss, a former Australian Test player, in a charity game.

Anita White, director of development at the English Sports Council, said: "There are only a few sports in which men and women can compete on level terms. Sailing and equestrianism are two. However, women can outperform men in endurance sports such as long-distance swimming."

"There are clear physiological differences between the two sexes and in sports in which there is a premium on strength and speed, men clearly have an advantage."

The most publicised competition between the two sexes was the 1973 tennis match between Billie Jean King and Bobby Riggs, 55, a self-professed male chauvinist pig in straight sets in Houston.

For great family PC packages at fantastic prices. Forget Santa, come to us.

Intel Pentium II Processor

Kodak DC210 Digital Camera

PC MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR '98

DELL DIMENSION MULTIMEDIA DESK TOPS INCLUDE:

- Intel® 440BX AGPset, 512KB Internal Cache, 17" Colour SVGA Monitor (0.28 dot pitch, 15.9" Viewable Area), 4.8x Toshiba DVD ROM with software decoding, Mid sized desktop or mini tower chassis, Microsoft® Windows™ 98, US Robotics 56 Kb/s V90 modem with 1 month 5T internet trial (exc. phone charges).

DELL DIMENSION V400	DELL DIMENSION XPS R450
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intel® Pentium® II Processor 400MHz 64MB High performance 100MHz SDRAM 8.4GB ATA-33 Hard Drive Integrated ATI Rage Pro Turbo 2x AGP 8MB video 2 PC, 1 ISA, 1 PCI/ISA shared and 1 AGP Expansion Slots Integrated Yamaha XG 64 Sound and Harmon Keyboard 195 Speakers Microsoft Home Essentials™ '98 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intel Pentium II Processor 450MHz 128MB High performance 100MHz SDRAM 17.9GB ATA-33 Hard Drive ATI XPERT 960 3D AGP Video Card 3 PC, 1 ISA, 1 PCI/ISA shared and 1 AGP Expansion Slots Turtle Beach Montage 11 ASD 320 Voice PCI Sound Card and Active Louding ACS 295 Speakers with Subwoofer Microsoft Office 97 Small Business Edition V2
£1,049 (£1,273.70 incl. VAT)	£1,349 (£1,626.20 incl. VAT)
MS 3 YEAR PERSONAL FINANCE: 649.02 APR 26.9%	MS 3 YEAR PERSONAL FINANCE: 662.59 APR 26.9%

DELL INSPIRON™ 3200 233 XT

- Mobile Intel® Pentium® II Processor 233MHz
- Intel® 440BX Chipset
- 13.3" XGA (1024x768) TFT Screen
- 32MB SDRAM (Upgradable to 144MB)
- 52MB High Performance Level II Cache
- 3.2GB ATA-33 EIDE Hard Drive (Upgradable to 6.4GB)
- Modem: 24 x CD-ROM and 3.5" Floppy Disk Drives (DVD Optional)
- Integrated 16-Bit Sound Master Pro-Compatible with Internal microphones and Speakers
- 228 bit High Performance Message video with 2MB VRAM

SAVE £100

- Infrared communication port (IrDA 1.1 compatible)
- 2 Cartridges PCMCIA Type II Slots
- Lithium Ion Battery
- Touchpad with 2 Buttons
- Zoomed Video Support
- USB Port
- Microsoft Windows 98
- Microsoft Home Essentials™ '98

£1,149 (£1,391.20 incl. VAT)

MS 3 YEAR PERSONAL FINANCE: 544.22 APR 26.9%

THE EASY WAY TO PAY! Dell Financial Services Repayment example! Enjoy the benefits of a Dell PC by opting for our deferred payment scheme. PC Cash price £1,273.70 (inc. VAT & delivery). Pay whole balance on or before due payment date interest free, alternatively pay 36 monthly payments of £49.02 APR 26.9%. Finance subject to status.

TALK DIRECT TO YOUR HOME PHONE

0870 152 2653

www.dell.com/uk/today

DELL

Soap stars take centre stage in BBC dramas

Famous faces beat theatre veterans in battle for plum roles in new TV season, reports Carol Midgley

SOAP operas, once regarded as safe but unglamorous employment by actors, are breeding the next generation of TV stars. BBC1 has recruited former regulars on *Coronation Street*, *EastEnders* and *Brookside* to cast its three big series for the winter: *Harbour Lights*, *Sunburn* and *Holby City*. Where once actors might have been spotted in touring repertory theatre, they are now learning their craft in front of mass television audiences.

Mal Young, the first BBC head of drama to have spent most of his career working on soaps, denied the move was taking BBC drama downmarket. At the launch of BBC1's £163 million winter schedule, he said that much of the stigma around soaps had gone. "The best actors are coming out of soaps these days. I think soaps are coming of age and

people aren't as snobbish about them as they used to be. They are in the biggest shows and they often work the hardest and longest. They also get the smallest amount of time to get performances that are so good.

Michael French, who played the car dealer David Wicks in *EastEnders*, Angela Griffin, who played Fionn the hairdresser in *Coronation Street*, and Nicola Stephenson, who played the teenage lesbian Margaret in *Brookside* are to take the lead roles in *Holby City*, a spin-off hospital series from the hugely successful *Casualty*.

The lead role in *Sunburn*, a drama set in Cyprus, is to be played by Michelle Collins, until recently Cindy Beale in *EastEnders*. Nick Berry, whose roles have included Simon Wicks in *EastEnders*, is to play a former lieutenant-com-



Young has worked extensively on soaps

mander in *Harbour Lights*. His co-star, Tina Hobley, was a barmaid at the Rover's Return in *Coronation Street*.

Mr Young conceded that "you will never win a Bafta for the perfect soap" because they still had a reputation with some people for representing cheap television. But he added: "I can't argue with 20 million people who watch soaps every week. Soaps are the best breeding ground for talent. More kids know about

Romeo and Juliet because of Leonardo di Caprio's film [*Romeo and Juliet*] than they do from reading the play. I think Grant and Tiffany [from *EastEnders*] would make a great Romeo and Juliet but we would have to set it in the East End."

EastEnders is to have an injection of levity after viewers have complained that its storylines are too gloomy.

The soap which has recently seen Cindy Beale die in childbirth and last night saw Tiffany Mitchell apparently beaten up by her husband is to feature more humour.

Mr Young said he wanted to see fewer glum faces in Albert Square. "We are going to lighten it up," he said. "It can be a little bit too heavy at times."

"Someone wrote in last week and said 'I saw Ian Beale smiling recently and wondered if he had trapped wind.'"

Ross Kemp (Grant Mitchell) and Steve McFadden (Phil Mitchell) are inspiring as actors and they want to be pushed in new directions. We will see a more tender side to their characters."



Tina Hobley, Nick Berry and Matilda Ziegler, above, will star in the BBC's *Harbour Lights*, set in a small South Coast town where feuding families and rogue business deals dominate the lives of

residents. Berry plays the harbour master. *Sunburn* will follow the lives of a group of British holiday representatives and detail their relationships and difficulties with troublesome holidaymakers in

Cyprus. *Holby City* will be a spin-off from *Casualty*. Where *Casualty* is set in the accident and emergency wards of Holby hospital, the new series will tell stories from elsewhere in the complex.



What, exactly, is the best way to

share

a thought?

Do you post it on your intranet? Or do you say it on the Internet? Should you e-mail it? Or fax it? With so many ways to connect, you need the help of a company that can help you unify them all - Nortel Networks™. A company whose solutions are at the heart of mission critical networks - ranging from the world's largest capital markets, to the world's busiest call centres. We've even connected entire countries through advanced wireless networks. For a few thoughts on how you can unify your networks, call us at 01628 432000, or visit us at www.nortelnetworks.com

NORTEL NETWORKS™
How the world shares ideas.

© 1998 Nortel Networks. All rights reserved.

Fans take football passion to the grave

By PAUL WILKINSON

FOOTBALL supporters can now go to their graves proclaiming their loyalty to their club - in a coffin decorated in the team colours.

The first commission was a coffin in the colours of Middlesbrough FC. As well as the Premiership side's red and white motif, it was painted with footballs and a view of the home ground.

The service is offered by Undertaken With Care, a firm set up by Martin Cole, a carpenter, to offer alternatives to traditional funerals. Mr Cole, 43, will not embalm bodies but will make the coffins, decorated by a professional artist, and organise the burial. He will also give advice to families wanting DIY funerals.

He set up the venture in Thornaby-on-Tees with his cousin, Barry Shaw, after the funeral of Mr Shaw's brother Robert earlier this year. "Many of the family felt the service had been inappropriate," Mr Cole said.

"It made me think that quite often families are distraught at the loss of a loved one but the only real part they play in the funeral is when they pay the bill. We want to get families more involved."

Couple win £60,000 for home over mineshaft

By SIMON DE BRUELLES

A COUPLE who bought a house not realising that it was built over a disused mineshaft have won almost £60,000 damages from their surveyors.

Kim and Marie-Annette Pumphrey bought the 1930s house in St Ives in January 1991. Five years later they noticed a mining expert, Michael Shipp, conducting tests on a nearby property and, out of curiosity, asked him to check their house. They learnt that it was in danger of disappearing into a hole in the ground. The property has since been valued at a third of the £58,000 they paid for it.

Yesterday, at Truro County Court, a judge said that the surveyors who did the mortgage valuation, Whitlocks, failed to suggest a search for evidence of old mine workings in the area. Judge Anthony Thompson said that, had the couple known that there could have been mining under the house, they would have paid for a search and would never have bought the house.

Mr Pumphrey said later: "We have a lot of thinking to do as to what we will do with our home." He hoped the case would help people in Cornwall in a similar situation.



Gallagher

Father in child porn link killed himself

By SIMON DE BRUELLES

A BUSINESSMAN who killed himself after the discovery of a photographic picture of a child on his computer has been hailed as a hero by his family.

Kenich Miyazaki, 47, was found dead in his South Wales home last year ago, having committed suicide. His study was full of photographs of children, some of which were pornographic. The 1,200 pictures were covered when the computer for repair was taken to PC World in Cardiff. The police, Mr Miyazaki was arrested with the computer and a net. Social workers were concerned about the children's welfare and bailed on condition that he not live at home.

Mr Miyazaki's wife, Erika, 44, said: "The inquest in Cardiff told that he had committed suicide. I apologise to my father and son. I really want to see my children and for this matter to be concerned." Verdict: suicide.



HOW MUCH WOULD YOU PAY TO CLEAR THIS PILE OF RUBBISH?

Hopefully you will never be asked this question. But our soldiers are frequently involved in these dangerous operations and sometimes they are injured or even pay with their lives. The debt we owe them is beyond measure.

This is your chance to help those soldiers and co-soldiers and their families, who now find themselves in need.

Don't you think that a donation, a covenant or a legacy to the Army Benevolent Fund is an appropriate way of saying to our soldiers - thank you for being there when you were needed?

THE ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

To: The Army Benevolent Fund, Dept. TT 01/12,
41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR.

I would like to make a donation

I would like information on covenants and legacies

Signature

Name

Address

Postcode

I enclose a cheque/PO or debit my credit card (Visa/Mastercard/Amex) and return

Expiry date

Amount

Direct Debit: We may occasionally wish to contact you about our work. If you would prefer that we do not, please tick the box Reg. Charity No. 214698

Up to 52 days interest free credit

No annual fee.

19.8% APR

Goldfish

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR

19.8% APR



Gallagher: denies causing death by dangerous driving

Boy died as milkman drove into flash flood

Court told that van was swept away as driver ignored stranded vehicles and warnings, reports Peter Foster

A SCHOOLBOY who earned extra pocket money by helping out on a milk round was drowned after the milkman ignored warnings and drove his van into a violent flash flood, a court was told yesterday.

Carl Giles, 14, was swept away by the River Leam in Warwickshire as he and Vincent Gallagher, 34, set out on their round last April at the height of floods that left thousands homeless.

The pair were driving down the Fosse Way between the villages of Eathorpe and Princethorpe shortly after 3am on April 10 when they came across a "violent and turbulent" flood that had reached almost 5ft above road level.

Ignoring a stranded Severn Trent Water van and a 7½-tonne lorry that had parked by the roadside because its driver thought the road impassable, Mr Gallagher ploughed

into the raging waters without stopping or braking, Warwick Crown court was told.

He collided with the abandoned van but still did not stop, pressing on into the flood, where he quickly became stranded. As the van filled with water, Mr Gallagher managed to escape, clinging to a hedgerow until he was rescued by a policeman. Carl's body was found later that morning, washed up under a bridge.

Mr Gallagher, from Henley Green, Coventry, denies causing death by dangerous driving. Colman Treacy, QC, for the prosecution, said Mr Gallagher had ignored warnings that could have averted the accident. "It was a flood which was very obvious. The flood was an angry flood, there was white water with waves breaking on the banks at the side of the road. It was night-time, a



Carl Giles: was earning extra pocket money

fact which should have also made him take care. He said one van had already had problems in the flood and had been abandoned. Another lorry had pulled up in front of Gallagher but, despite this, he drove on.

Stephen Ellis, the driver of the lorry, initially laughed as Mr Gallagher tried to fight his way through the torrent in his van, but Mr Treacy added: "Their laughter turned quickly to concern as they realised it was getting into serious trouble. The van was turned round

by the force of the flood and swept away."

Mr Ellis called the police and an officer secured with ropes waded into the water. When pulled to safety, Mr Gallagher allegedly said: "What a stupid thing to do. It is all my fault," and "I should not have gone in."

Mr Treacy said: "We say he drove dangerously. We criticise him for entering the flood in a vehicle of this size when larger vehicles had come to grief, and for continuing after hitting the van."

Nicholas Scarsbrook, the driver of a recovery truck who rescued the driver of the stranded Severn Trent van, said: "I stopped for about three minutes to have a look at the situation and then pulled into the water at about 5mph. The water was above the bottom of the windshield. It was fairly difficult. I could feel the lorry getting pushed around."

He pulled alongside the van and asked the occupant to come out. "I got the lorry as close as I could and he jumped out and I drove off."

The case continues



The van, right, in which Carl Giles was a passenger

Father in child porn link killed himself

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

A BUSINESSMAN killed himself after the discovery of pornographic pictures on his personal computer led to him being named from his home, an inquest was told yesterday.

Yoshi Miyazaki, 50, an account manager who moved to south Wales from Japan a year ago, hanged himself in his home a week after police questioned him about the photographs, which included child pornography he had found on the Internet.

The 1,000 pictures were discovered when he took his computer for repair. Technicians at the World in London called the police. Mr Miyazaki, married with teenage children, was arrested on suspicion of distributing porn on the Internet. Special services officials were concerned about his children's welfare, and he was held on condition that he did not return home.

Mr Miyazaki went to his home in Cardiff, where his wife's friends found him dead. The inquest in Cardiff was told that he left a note saying: "I wish to my wife, daughter and son. I really wanted to see my children. Forgive me for this matter to everyone concerned. A verdict, outside."

Party saved five from fatal gas leak in pub

By ADRIAN LEE

A LATE night at a school reunion is believed to have saved the lives of five guests at a country pub where two women were killed by a carbon monoxide leak.

Because the partygoers did not return to the pub until after 2am, they were exposed to the gas for a shorter time than Helen Marks, 31, from Rawdon, West Yorkshire, and Kay Stenning, from Richmond, southwest London, who were found dead in their rooms at the Crown Inn in Wentnor, Shropshire, on Sunday.

The alarm was raised after two of those who went to the reunion at Bedstone College, Bucknell - Steven Forde, of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, and his sister Caroline, of London - did not appear for breakfast.

The Fordes were flown to Murrayfield Hospital, on the Wirral, Merseyside, for decompression treatment and three other reunion guests were treated at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. The dead women had not been to the reunion. A West Mercia police spokesman said that an inquiry into the leak, believed to have been from a boiler, was continuing.

Friday the 25th. 8 p.m.

MOËT & CHANDON
Fondée en 1743

Imperial

L'art de vivre

Up to 52 days interest free credit.

No annual fee.

19.8% APR

Goldfish is unique. Like most other credit cards, it's accepted wherever you see Visa and MasterCard signs. However, it can also save you up to £75 off your British Gas bill!

Not only that, it has no, repeat no, annual fee, a special introductory APR of 12.9% on tranches and up to 52 days interest free credit on purchases. For more information, fill in the coupon, access our website on www.Goldfish.com or telephone:

0345 60 90 60

Goldfish

To proceed what you need a GO FISH!



Goldfish is a credit card issued by Goldfish Finance Ltd, a subsidiary of British Gas Finance Ltd. The card is subject to the Goldfish Credit Card Agreement, which can be found on the Goldfish website. The card is not redeemable for cash. The card is subject to the Goldfish Credit Card Agreement, which can be found on the Goldfish website. The card is not redeemable for cash. The card is subject to the Goldfish Credit Card Agreement, which can be found on the Goldfish website. The card is not redeemable for cash.

Teachers and chefs are now upper class

FOOTBALL managers, restaurateurs, teachers and police officers have joined the social elite. All four groups of *hoi polloi* take their places in the highest social class under a classification system unveiled by the Office for National Statistics yesterday.

Blue blood is no longer a passport to the top rank, with some aristocratic landowners sinking below secretaries and footballers in the order of new Britain.

The system reflects three profound shifts in society: the growth of the middle class, the emergence of a new petit bourgeoisie and the rising fortunes of women in the workforce. It will be used in the 2001 census.

Working conditions and prospects have replaced training and education as a measure of an individual's class. Thus football managers such as Alex Ferguson and restaurateur-chefs such as Marco Pierre White leap in rank because they manage scores of staff rather than because of their skills on the training ground or in the kitchen.

Teachers and policemen now share the social class of lawyers and doctors because, under the system, job security offsets poor wages. Actors, civil servants and nurses stay in the same class, but shop assistants, hairdressers, cooks and drivers move down a class.

Hereditary peers get no favours from the system. Wealthy landowners who employ hundreds stay in class 1A, but poorer peers with only small farms are in class 4 — below secretaries, footballers and air stewaresses. Educa-

Alexandra Frean and Mark Henderson on the winners and losers in a new social order

tion, which allowed much of the gentry to stay at the top of the social tree even when their spending power and influence declined, is not a factor in the new system.

David Rose, Professor of Sociology at Essex University, who drew up the classification system, said that changes were needed because the population was now roughly divided into half middle class and half working class. Previously, the working classes occupied four out of the six class groups.

"This shows the downfall of the traditional male, manual, muscular worker. We have a much more feminised working class than in the past. There are not many coal miners left. Now the prototypical (class 7) working-class job is being a cleaner," he said.

There are now seven classes for those in work and an eighth class for those unemployed and claiming benefits. Retired people and housewives are classified according to their former jobs.

The system distinguishes primarily between those who are employers, self-employed or employees. At the top of the scale are senior executives and

other employees in a "service" relationship with their employer. They have a salary, a long-term contract, perks such as a pension plan and, above all, a considerable degree of control over their own jobs. At the bottom are employees in a "labour contract" relationship with their employers. They are employed on a short-term basis, are paid by time or by piece, have no perks and no job security and can be fired easily.

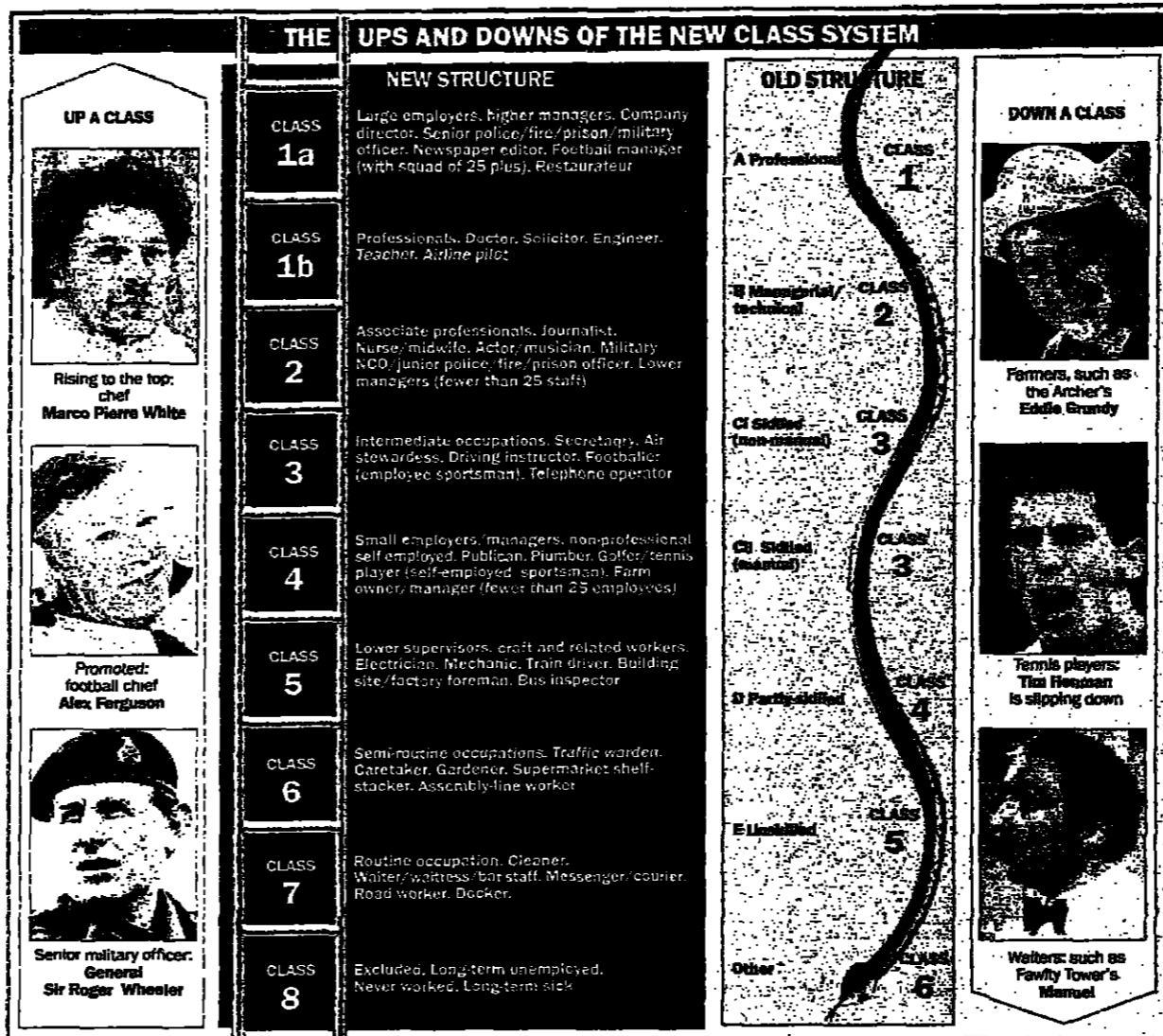
A footballer such as David Beckham, with a long, secure contract that includes perks such as sick pay, would make class 3 (intermediate occupations). However, the tennis player Tim Henman, who probably earns a similar amount, makes only class 4 because he is self-employed, leaving his career at greater risk from injury or loss of form.

There is a new class, class 4, called "the new petit bourgeoisie" by Professor Rose. This includes the growing ranks of manual workers, from plumbers to publicans, who have left larger employers to work for themselves.

The system more accurately reflects the position of women in the workforce. Previously they were often classified according to their husband's job.

Under the new system 17 per cent of women are in classes 1A and 1B, compared with 26 per cent of men. In 1984 only 4 per cent of women made it into the top class, against 13 per cent of men.

It has been a gloomy century for blue bloods. The hardest have flourished: as nightclub hosts, as Highland dancing instructors for Japanese tourists, and as circus turns



Wounding cut for blue bloods

IT WAS along the Brighton seafront, driving his bus, that Lord Teviot met the future Lady Teviot. She was the bus clipper. The Old Etonian can be seen, for the time being, pottering around the House of Lords, where he still pursues a keen interest in transport.

Plus ça change? Jasper Gerard, Diary Editor, on today's elites

ed to the tale of a *nouveau riche* Rolls-Royce driver passing a vast and delightful garden. "How much are you paid?" he demanded of the scruffy rose-pruner. "Nothing," came the reply, "but I do get to sleep with the lady of the house." He was, of course, the owner, and a member of the House of Lords.

Now facing a chilly political and social breeze, the old landed classes are scrambling for cover. Many peers have given up signing themselves "Lord Biggame". Lord Rogers of Riverside seems agonised by his peerage, eschewing a lie and falling for the "call me Richard" syndrome.

But egalitarians have little to cheer. The composition of the ruling class has changed, and its style may have become less formal, but the structure is remarkably unchanged. Domestic service is booming, although the employer is more likely to be an Islington media type than a shooting toff. The uniformed nanny pushing a pram in Kensington Gardens is on first-name terms with her boss. He insists that she join the family to dinner — to the discomfort of everyone.

The informal style is essentially just that: style. The new elite holds dinner parties where it bitches about outsiders, enjoys all aspects of power, and helps its own. The rather feckless offspring of the new Labour Establishment land jobs that have something to do with the Millennium Dome, just as an earlier generation found vaguely gainful employment in the Guards.

I made this point to a senior Labour politician. He paused, then smiled: "There are a few things, old boy, that will never change."

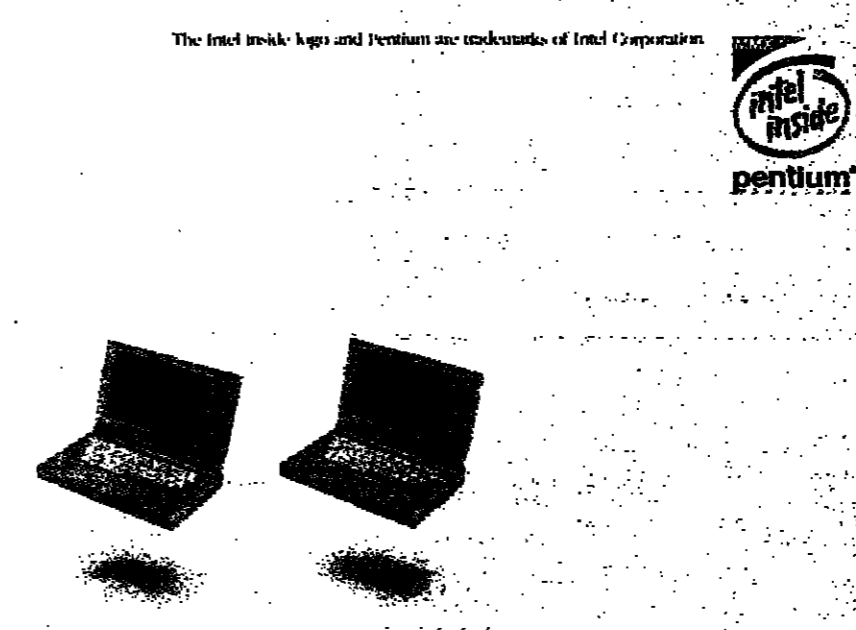
Revised Interest Rates. Amended Investment and Savings Rates. Effective from 1st December, 1998.

Previous				New			
Minimum Investment	Gross Including Bonus	Gross Excluding Bonus	Net*	Minimum Investment	Gross Including Bonus	Gross Excluding Bonus	Net*
Premium Saver (Annually)							
£100,000 +	7.50%*	6.50%	5.20%	£100,000 +	7.00%*	6.00%	4.80%
£50,000	7.25%*	6.25%	5.00%	£50,000	6.75%*	5.75%	4.60%
£20,000	7.15%*	6.15%	4.92%	£20,000	6.50%*	5.50%	4.48%
Premium Saver (Monthly)							
£100,000 +	7.30%*	6.30%	5.04%	£100,000 +	6.80%*	5.80%	4.64%
£50,000	7.05%*	6.05%	4.84%	£50,000	6.60%*	5.60%	4.48%
£20,000	6.95%*	5.95%	4.76%	£20,000	6.45%*	5.45%	4.36%
Higher Saver (Annually)							
£10,000 +	6.60%**	6.10%	4.88%	£10,000 +	6.10%**	5.60%	4.48%
£5,000	6.25%**	5.75%	4.60%	£5,000	6.00%**	5.50%	4.40%
£1,000	6.00%**	5.50%	4.40%	£1,000	5.50%**	5.00%	4.00%
Higher Saver (Monthly)							
£10,000 +	6.40%**	5.90%	4.72%	£10,000 +	5.95%**	5.45%	4.36%
£5,000	6.10%**	5.60%	4.48%	£5,000	5.85%**	5.35%	4.28%
£1,000	5.85%**	5.35%	4.28%	£1,000	5.35%**	4.85%	3.88%
Regular Saver (Anniversary)							
£5,000 +	8.25%**	6.60%		£5,000 +	7.75%**	6.20%	
£20	8.00%**	6.40%		£20	7.50%**	6.00%	
Flexible Savings and Flexible Savings CashCard Account**							
£100,000 +	4.75%	3.80%		£100,000 +	4.50%	3.20%	
£20,000	4.75%	3.80%		£20,000	4.00%	3.20%	
£10,000	3.75%	3.00%		£10,000	3.25%	2.60%	
£5,000	3.50%	2.80%		£5,000	2.75%	2.20%	
£2,500	3.25%	2.60%		£2,500	2.50%	2.00%	
£500	2.75%	2.20%		£500	2.25%	1.80%	
£100	2.25%	1.80%		£100	2.00%	1.60%	
FirstSaver							
£1 +	8.00%	6.40%		£1 +	7.50%	6.00%	
TESSA				TESSA			
Platinum Tessa		7.85% tax free	⊕	Platinum Tessa		7.25% tax free	⊕
Flexi-Tessa		7.35% tax free	⊕	Flexi-Tessa		6.75% tax free	⊕
Variable Rate Maturity Tessa		7.85% tax free	⊕	Variable Rate Maturity Tessa		7.25% tax free	⊕
Monthly Income Maturity Tessa		7.60% tax free	⊕	Monthly Income Maturity Tessa		7.00% tax free	⊕

*Without UK income tax deducted. **Net rate excluding all bonuses (if applicable) and assuming rate of income tax at 20%. †Includes a 1% gross annual bonus for no withdrawals. For 1 or 2 withdrawals a bonus of 0.5% gross is paid. No bonus is payable for 3 or more withdrawals during a bonus year or where the balance has fallen below £20,000 at any time throughout the year. ‡Includes a 0.5% gross annual bonus for no withdrawals during a bonus year, and balance must be £1,000 or more throughout the year. ††Includes a 3% gross anniversary bonus for 12 monthly payments of the agreed amount and no withdrawal. *Customers whose accounts were opened before 31st March, 1998 and who are aged under 23 and recorded as such, previously received 2.75% gross from £100 to £2,499, the new rate will be 2.25% from £100 to £2,499. **Rates payable on Britannia Instant Access Instant Access Deposit, Instant Access Card Deposit and CAR rates on Half Yearly and Monthly Instant Access accounts (all of which are closed to new accounts) pay the same rates as Flexible Savings Accounts. †Free of UK income tax. Net rates are illustrative only and have been rounded to two decimal places. Rates may vary but are correct at the time of going to press. FOR INFORMATION: Interest rates on some other accounts have also changed from the same date. Details of interest rates paid on other accounts are available from any Britannia branch. You may be unsure as to whether your existing account is the best one for you. If so, please call into your local branch where we will be happy to explain the various schemes in detail.



Britannia Building Society
Britannia House Leek Staffordshire ST13 5AG



The Libretto 100CT and 110CT are the smallest and lightest mini-notebook PCs in the world. And they start at just £1295* without VAT or £1521.63* with VAT.

CLEAR & SIMPLE OFFERS FROM TOSHIBA
For more information call your Toshiba Authorised Reseller or call Toshiba on 01932 628 628.
or visit our website at www.toshiba.co.uk/computers

If you're an employer, the children of the next millennium are pinning their hopes on you reading this.

If ever there was a time to make a difference, the millennium can lay strong claim to being that point in history.

A moment in time which deserves to be marked by something of lasting value.

This is the thinking that led directly to the Children's Promise.

An idea that will unite both you and your workforce, as a force for change.

An idea that will create a better future for the children of the next millennium.

What is the Children's Promise?

It's an idea magnetic in its simplicity.

Everyone in the UK is being asked to donate the value of their final hour's earnings from this millennium to create a better future for the children of the next.

Seven of the UK's major charities that work for children have come together to allocate the money where it is needed:

Barnardo's, BBC Children in Need, ChildLine, The Children's Society, Comic Relief, NCH Action for Children, and NSPCC.

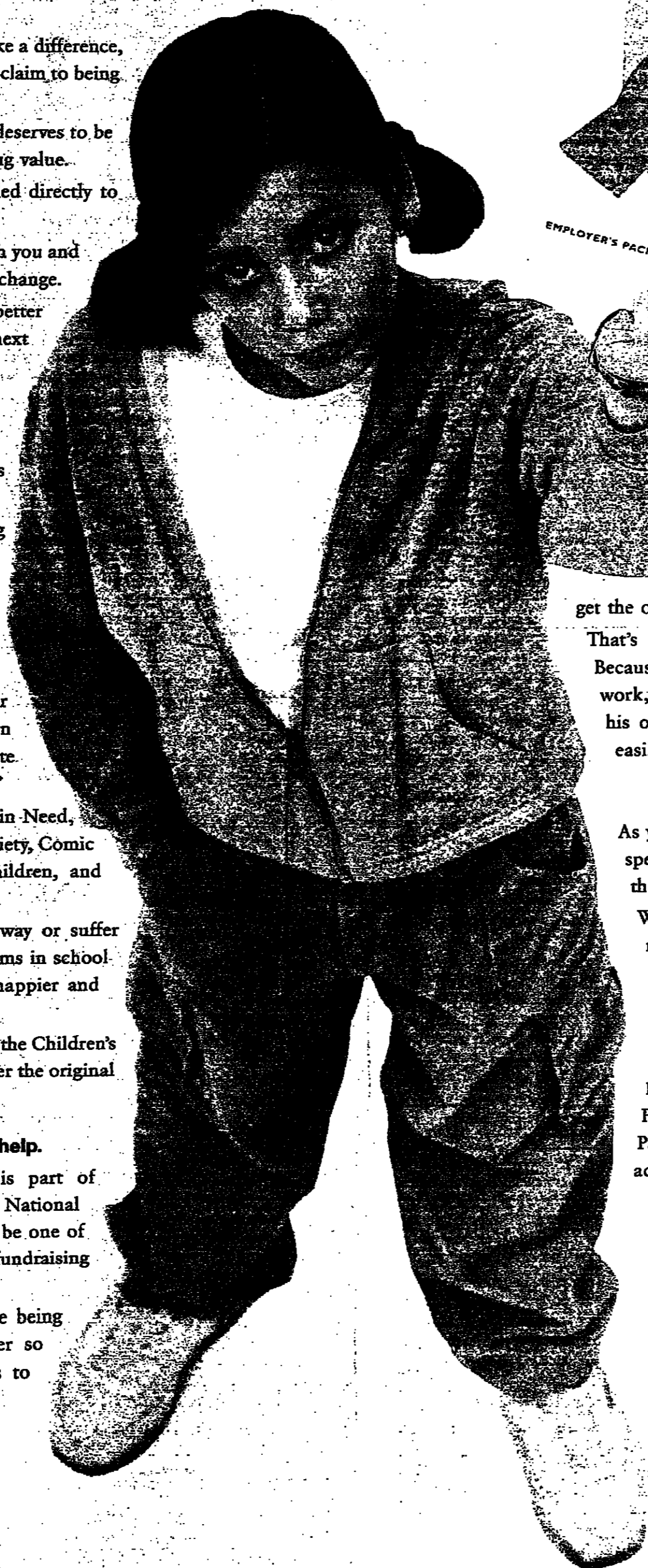
Children who have run away or suffer from neglect, abuse or problems in school stand to gain a future both happier and more fulfilling.

In that sense, the effects of the Children's Promise will continue long after the original idea has been forgotten.

Here's how you can help.

The Children's Promise is part of the Millennium Experience's National Programme and is looking to be one of this country's largest ever fundraising campaigns.

All the operating costs are being covered by Marks & Spencer so that every penny raised goes to children's causes.



CHILDREN'S PROMISE
THE MILLENNIUM FINAL HOUR APPEAL

EMPLOYER'S PACK

The response already has been overwhelmingly positive but it's vital that as many people as possible get the opportunity to be part of it.

That's why we're asking for your involvement. Because if there's one place where this idea will work, it's at work. Everybody can feel united in his or her efforts, and donations can be made easily via the payroll.

Here's how we can help.

As you can see, we've designed a pack with the specific aim of helping employers organise their staff behind this campaign.

With your help, the millennium will be remembered as a moment in history when millions of people came together to make a genuine difference.

And the legacy we leave the children of the next millennium will be one of hope and potential.

For your Children's Promise Employer's Pack, please contact any of the numbers or addresses below.

Call 0870 607 1999

Fax: 0870 609 1999, or e-mail details to: childrens.promise@newmill.co.uk

Write to: Children's Promise, PO Box 25150, London SW1W 9WB.

(Charity Registration Number applied for.)

*Distributed at the discretion of the trustees.



CHILDREN'S PROMISE
THE MILLENNIUM FINAL HOUR APPEAL



Study links ME to glandular fever

Three quarters of all chronic fatigue cases are shown to come after viral infections, writes Helen Rumbelow

UP TO one in five glandular fever sufferers will develop chronic fatigue syndrome, according to a report published today, which claims to prove a relationship between the two illnesses for the first time.

The study is one of the first into the causes of the syndrome, also known as ME, which affects about 250,000 people in Britain but which was accepted as a real medical condition by Sir Kenneth Calman, the Chief Medical Officer, only this July.

Three quarters of those suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) say that their long-term, debilitating tiredness began after a viral infection, according to Peter White, the principal author of the study. He reports in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* that, to test a possible link, the team traced 250 patients over six months after glandular fever or other common viral infections had been diagnosed. The study established that glandular fever sufferers were in greater danger of getting chronic fatigue syndrome. Us-



Clare Francis among those who have suffered ME

this paper is that it shows viruses can trigger CFS," said Dr White, senior lecturer in psychological medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, Central London. "Particular viruses, especially those for glandu-

lar fever, are more likely to trigger it than common or garden viruses."

The report's findings give credence to the campaign of sufferers, who include the novelist and yachtswoman Clare Francis and the daughter of Esther Rantzen, the television presenter, to convince the medical establishment that the disease is not "all in the mind". Charles Shepherd, a medical director for the ME Association, said he believed that it proved what many doctors had learnt from their practices. "For a long time doctors have recognised this link, that glandular fever is not a childhood illness people snap out of, and that some of them go on to develop long-term symptoms consistent with CFS or ME."

Professor Simon Wessely, director of the CFS research unit at King's College Hospital, said that the report still could not explain what caused the syndrome.

"To put it in context, we all get exposed to the glandular fever virus by the age of 30. So there must be something else going on as well. Why do some people not get better after having it when 90 per cent of us do?"

"It must be a complex pathway to CFS, with several other factors playing a part."

FATIGUE HALTS SOLDIER'S DREAM

Tom Dinnen, 23, blames glandular fever for the chronic fatigue that may have put paid to his dream of being a soldier. Days before army selection tests, 14 months ago, he developed a severe sore throat and tested positive for glandular fever. He postponed the tests twice and, at Christmas, when still too weak to exert himself, had to put off his army entry indefinitely. Mr Dinnen, from Hereford, had been extremely fit but now spends his days in bed or on the sofa. "I'm lucky that my parents are supporting me at home but I miss my freedom," he said.

The mystery factor of stress

THERE are some aspects of chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS), known to some as ME, that are not disputed. Patients are ill but why they are ill, and the nature of their illness, is controversial. It is also agreed that studying case histories suggests that, in many, the condition may have been triggered by stress, often emotional but on occasions physical, including viral infections.

There have been difficulties in interpreting studies on the possibility that one particular organism is more likely to induce CFS. Most research has been retrospective: patients with CFS are asked about their health long after a possible precipitating infection when inevitably a variable memory may create a bias. As



MEDICAL BRIEFING

viral infections are so common, it is hard to remember exact details months later.

The importance of the study reported in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* is that it is a prospective study. A group of patients in general practice with glandular fever have been followed up and compared to those who had a common or garden upper-respiratory tract infection (a cough and cold). The acute fatigue syndrome, the weariness we feel after we have been ill, last-

ed for eight weeks after glandular fever, but only three weeks after upper-respiratory infection. It has been judged that 9 per cent of those who had glandular fever developed chronic fatigue syndrome and there are no cases after the respiratory tract infections.

The probability must be that, the more severe the infection, the greater the upset to the body and hence the stress. The greater the stress, the more likely that the mechanism which induces CFS is trig-

gered. Many conditions occur as a result of the interaction of a person's particular susceptibility to a precipitating factor, this study shows CFS may be one such condition, as has always been supposed.

In the past, my grandfather almost certainly had patients with CFS, but he described their condition as neurasthenia. It was thought that it could be triggered by influenza, typhoid, syphilis and a host of bacterial infections, as well as such obvious dramas as death, debt and divorce or more complex strains. More recently, CFS has been described as a sequel to unfamiliar, but nevertheless stressful, gastrointestinal infections, as well as glandular fever.

DR THOMAS STUTTFORD



Ville de Goyet he had to trim down donor's liver

Cut-down liver gives baby a new start in life

By PETER FOSTER

A BABY of ten months left hospital with his parents yesterday, six weeks after becoming Britain's youngest recipient of a combined liver and bowel transplant.

Mohammed Khan was born with Hirschsprung's disease, a rare condition in which intestinal nerves fail to develop normally, leading to chronic liver disease. He would have died without a transplant.

Surgeons at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham, decided to implant the liver of an eight-year-old boy because they could not find a donor of Mohammed's age. The liver, with the small bowel still attached, had to be trimmed down to a quarter of its size. The 6½-hour operation was the first of its kind performed in Europe.

"At the time of the operation Mohammed weighed nine kilograms, about a quarter of the weight of the donor. A surgical team, led by the Belgian specialist Jean de Ville de Goyet, performed the operation after Mohammed's condition deteriorated seriously in June, leaving him only three months to live."

"We are absolutely delighted with the way the operation went, as it now gives us the opportunity to offer this surgery to other children," said Mr Ville de Goyet. He said that his team had been forced to innovate because of a shortage of donors. "We desperat-



Mohammed and, below, his mother, Shaheen. "It's like he has been born again," she said

ly need organ donors of every size and age," he said.

Sue Beath, a hepatologist at the hospital, said that, before the transplant, Mohammed had never eaten solid food. "Now he loves the taste of chocolate," she said.

Similar operations have dramatically extended the lives of other patients, including a French girl who is still alive ten years after receiving a transplant at the age of one.

Doctors said that they expected Mohammed to live for at least five more years,

and hoped that he could have a normal life.

The boy's parents, Shaheen and Khalid Khan, said that they were looking forward to taking their son home to Leeds, where he was born, to meet his four-year-old brother, Sals, for the first time.

"At the time of the operation the doctors said he would only have a 50 per cent chance of living," Mrs Khan said. "We were very worried but are now so pleased with operation. It's like Mohammed has been born again."



MP dunks

By SIMON DE BRUIJN

PLANNERS have been accused of favouring a stunning view of a holiday home in a park.

The house is built on a cliff in Penryn, Cornwall, overlooking the sea through its full-width garage windows.

Bob Marshall-Andrews, MP for Midway, said he was able to get a sense of the new development from a day home at built in a primitive that the town of Penryn, Cornwall, was removed from the map. The house is built on a cliff in Penryn, Cornwall, overlooking the sea through its full-width garage windows.

The structure is built on a cliff in Penryn, Cornwall, overlooking the sea through its full-width garage windows.

Others are unhappy that it would be a landmark for the town of Penryn, Cornwall, overlooking the sea through its full-width garage windows.

MP was able to get a sense of the new development from a day home at built in a primitive that the town of Penryn, Cornwall, was removed from the map.

Mothers are urged to have HIV

By IAN MURPHY

A CAMPAIGN to encourage all pregnant women to have an HIV test has been launched by the Government as evidence mounts that women are increasingly being infected with the virus.

Only 30 per cent of women who are HIV-positive prevent them taking the stage of new treatments could prevent their babies being infected.

"Having the course for the HIV test is an important first step in preventing babies being born with HIV," Tessa Jowell, Minister of Public Health, said.

"If we can increase the numbers of pregnant women taking an HIV test we can also reduce more infections that will significantly reduce the risk of HIV passing to their babies - from six to one in 100."

Figures released for World Aids Day today show that the prevalence of HIV among women giving birth in London has quadrupled since 1990. Of 135 babies born

Why do accountants recommend Sage?

Choosing the right computerised accounting system for your business is too important to leave to chance. You need expert advice. And if you ask a chartered accountant, most - over 80% - will recommend Sage. After all, they probably use Sage themselves.

Sage is easy to use
Sage software has been developed to be easy to use. And with on-screen help, and full telephone support available, you are never on your own.

Sage is versatile
Sage provides a simpler, faster way to tackle all your accounting needs. From everyday book-keeping - VAT at the touch of a button - to sophisticated management reports. Sage does it all. So not only does your Sage software save you valuable time and avoid error, it gives you the answers you need for your management questions.

Sage grows with you
Company start-up, or international network - as your business grows, there is always a Sage package that fits your needs.

And by providing the management reports and information you need, Sage can help you ensure that growth continues.

Sage is the UK leader in PC accounting software, used by over a million companies. To see what we can do for your business, ask the advice of your accountant - or simply call Sage.

Call the Sage Business Advice Line:
0800 44 77 77
Lines open 9am-5pm Monday to Friday. Or visit Sage at <http://www.sage.com> EXT. 1046

Call 0900 44 77 77, or fax this coupon to 0191 255 0202 or return it to: Sage, Sage House, Benton Park Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE7 7LZ.

Title (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms) _____ Initial _____ Surname _____ 1046
Position _____ Company name _____
Company address _____
Postcode _____ Tel _____
e-mail address _____

sage
Through knowledge comes control

UK TRACKER PEP

Your last chance to get on track with a top performer.

When you take out a Scottish Widows UK Tracker PEP, you'll be investing in the fund which recently came top in a survey* of all UK 100 Tracker funds.

The fund - the Scottish Widows UK Index Trust - tracks the Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 Index, which currently includes companies like BP, Marks & Spencer and BT.

Our UK Tracker PEP is an easy, low-cost way to invest in the UK market and, taking into account recent stockmarket events, now could be a good time to take one out. And remember, after April 1999 you won't be able to invest in a PEP. So why not find out more today?

For an application form, return the coupon or call
0345 6789 10
Quote reference no. 385BC3

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
www.scottishwidows.co.uk

Please return to: Scottish Widows, Customer Services Department, FREEPOST EH29 20, 16 Bernard Street, Edinburgh EH6 0BR.

Surname (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms) _____ First Name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Telephone No. Work _____ Home _____ Date of Birth _____

We will never make your name and address available to other organisations. However, we will occasionally ask you more about our products and services which we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this information, please tick this box.

The value of stockmarket investments and any income from them may fall as well as rise and investors may not get back the amount originally invested. The tax treatment of PEPs will change in April 1999. *Source: The Observer 09.08.98. £1,000 invested on 01.11.96 to 31.07.98 over one year, offer to bid prices, net income re-invested. 16 funds were surveyed. The value of £1,000 invested at launch on 01.11.96 to 31.07.98 was £1,538.02, offer to bid prices, net income re-invested. Past performance is not necessarily a guide to the future. Investment Authority and IPRD.

1 month FREE Internet access, including 50 FREE AOL

PLUS 3 FREE Personal Call Cards worth £100

FREE Customer and online support
 FREE 5 Email addresses

AOL
So easy to use, no wonder
CALL NO 0800 88 99

Please return this coupon to the following:
AOL, FREEPOST, LONDON, EC1A 3BB

YES!! Send me AOL's FREE T...
Postcode _____ City _____

Tick box if you don't wish to receive...
Name _____ Home phone _____

MP defends clifftop bunker from critics

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

PLANNERS have been accused of favouritism after allowing a millionaire Labour MP to construct a futuristic holiday home in a national park.

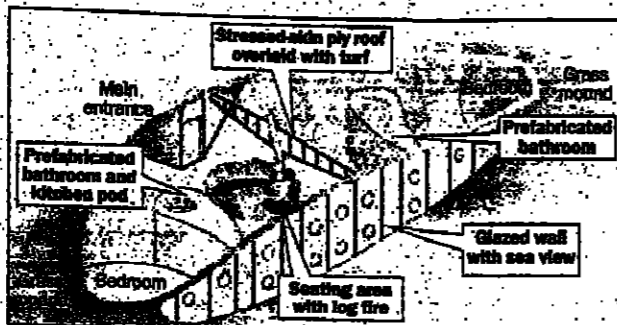
The house is built into a clifftop in Pembrokeshire with stunning views out to sea through its full-length panoramic window.

Bob Marshall-Andrews, the MP for Medway, in Kent, was able to get around restrictions on new development in the national park because his holiday home is built on the site of a primitive wooden chalet.

Barriers that hid construction of the bunker-like building from walkers using the Pembrokeshire coastal path were removed earlier this month. The unusual design has provoked mixed reactions.

The structure has been turned over, leading to suggestions by some local residents that it would be more suitable for the Teletubbies than an eminent QC.

Others are unhappy that the MP was able to get planning



permission for a new house when many of them have been unable to make alterations to existing properties.

Anne Kenyon, who lives in the village of Nolton Haven and owns holiday homes in the area, said: "It can be a major battle to get an extension or a conservatory, but this MP manages to get permission for this terrible eyesore. I cannot understand why planning permission was given for something so out of character."

The single-storey house, built into the top of an 80ft cliff at Druidston, has spectacular views of St Bride's Bay through the 60ft long window running the length of its seaward side. The

house, which is believed to have cost about £250,000, has two bedrooms, a lounge with open log fire and a kitchen and two bathrooms designed within metal pods.

Much of the building was put together in London then taken by road to Pembrokeshire to be buried in the hillside. It was then covered with local turf and planted with gorse in an attempt to help it blend in. There is no garden and the boundaries of the property have deliberately been left undefined.

Mr Marshall-Andrews, 54, and his wife, Gill, built the property as a holiday home but may retire there. He said:

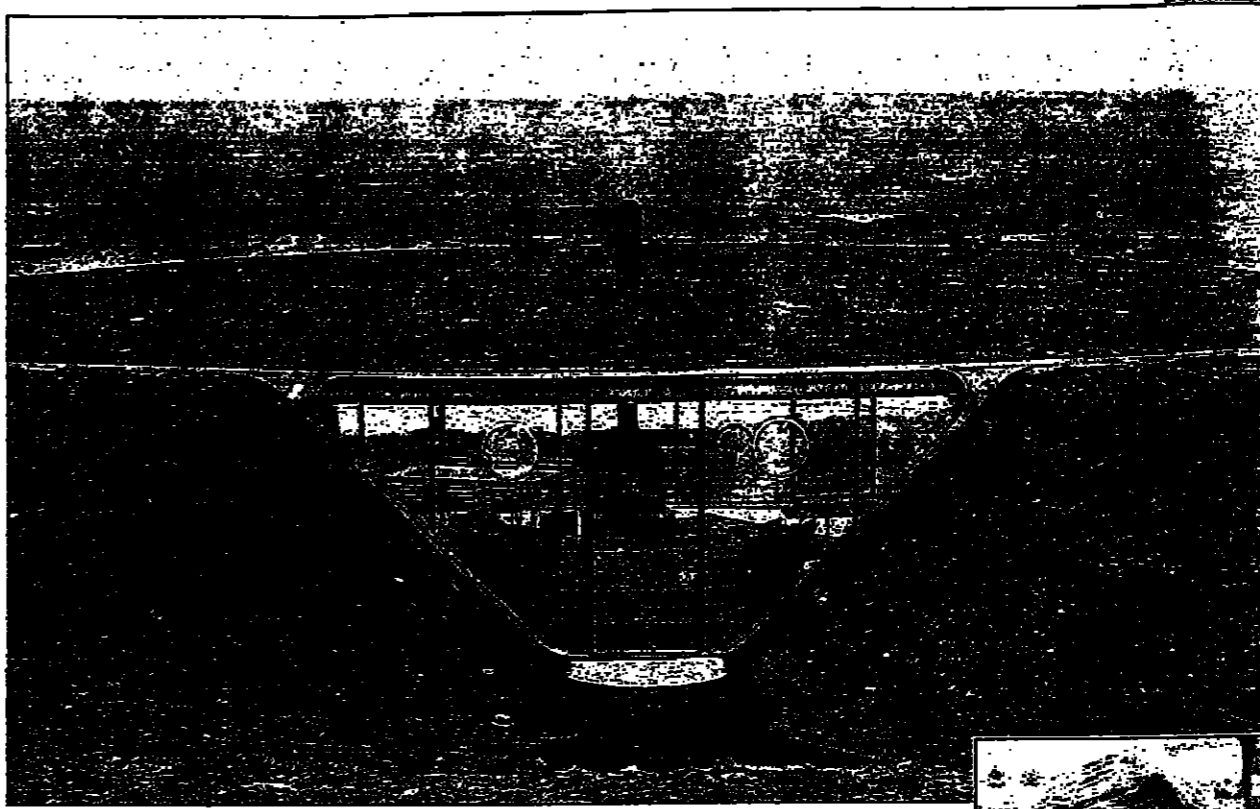
"Reaction from neighbours has been extremely positive. I am very pleased with the design and it has conformed to everything I want. I think it is something brilliant for the future."

But one local businessman, who did not want to be named, said: "It is an ugly blot on the landscape, like something from Star Trek or Teletubbies."

The building was designed by a Czech architect, Jan Kaplicky, of London-based Future Systems. It has been featured in the Architects Journal as a way of building in an environmentally sensitive area.

The house also has local supporters, led by Jane Bell, who runs the Druidston Hotel near by. She said: "It is a very unusual, exciting design and has brought a breath of fresh air to the coastline. It is lovely inside and, once the vegetation has grown back, it will blend in with the surroundings."

Mr and Mrs Marshall-Andrews, who have two grown-up children, have holidayed in West Wales for the past 25 years. The National Park Authority



The futuristic home built into a Pembrokeshire cliff by Bob Marshall-Andrews, right



recently provoked criticism after ordering the demolition of experimental environmentally friendly, low-impact homes at an "eco-village" near Newport. Unlike Mr Marshall-Andrews' new home, the homes at Brithdir Mawr have been built using only local materials and are self-sufficient. Wruth Williams, a spokes-

woman for the national park, yesterday denied that the planning committee had been more sympathetic to the development because it was proposed by a well-heeled MP. "Being an MP did not help him get planning permission. The same rules apply to everyone. It went through the planning process very smoothly and I am not aware there were

any objections at all. It is a replacement for an old wooden dwelling and planning committee members welcomed the idea of something so innovative. "It still looks quite bare because quite a lot of landscaping has still to be done. We will be keeping in close contact with Mr Marshall-Andrews to make sure this is carried out."

Mothers-to-be are urged to have HIV test

By IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

A CAMPAIGN to encourage all pregnant women to have an HIV test has been launched by the Government as evidence mounts that women are increasingly becoming infected with the virus and many younger people no longer consider it a serious risk.

Only 30 per cent of women who are HIV-positive know that they are infected, which prevents them taking advantage of new treatments that could prevent their babies being infected.

"Having the courage to opt for the HIV test is an important first step in preventing babies being born with HIV," Tessa Jowell, Minister for Public Health, said yesterday. "If we can increase the numbers of pregnant women opting for an HIV test, we will diagnose more infections in time to offer the mothers measures that will significantly decrease the risk of HIV passing to their babies — from one in six to one in 100."

Figures released to mark World Aids Day today show that the prevalence of HIV among women giving birth in London has quadrupled since 1990. Of 133 babies born with

the virus, only ten mothers were aware that they were HIV positive before becoming pregnant. Six found out by having a test during pregnancy. The remainder found that they had HIV only when they were tested because their babies were dying of Aids.

The risk of passing HIV to a foetus can be minimised by a Caesarean section delivery. Avoiding breast-feeding removes the risk of passing on the virus through the milk. Midwives will lead the campaign to encourage tests, but they will not be compulsory.

A survey by the Health Education Authority found alarming ignorance among young people about the threat of HIV. One in six of the 16 to 24-year-olds questioned, the most vulnerable age group, believe that new HIV treatments — which have succeeded in cutting the Aids death rate — make it possible for those with the infection not to transmit the virus.

"HIV treatments may reduce the level of the virus in the body but there is no evidence of a safe level of HIV," Keith Winstein, of the National Aids Trust, said.

20% off

all malt whiskies at Tesco...



...but hurry, they won't be around forever.

TESCO

This week at Tesco, there's 20% off every bottle in our wide range of malt whiskies. So hurry down for this unmissable offer. *Every little helps.*

INCLUDES WORLD OF WINE STORES IN NORTHERN IRELAND. EXCLUDES EXPRESS STORES AND R.O.I. WHILST STOCKS LAST. OFFER ENDS 6TH DECEMBER 1998. www.tesco.co.uk

1 month's FREE Internet access, including 50 FREE hours

PLUS
FREE Personal Organisation worth £12.50

FREE Customer telephone and online support

FREE 5 Email addresses

So easy to use, no wonder we're No.1

CALL NOW 0800 88 99 55

PLEASE QUOTE: PAS3C/12B

Offer requires a PC or Macintosh and broadband internet connection. There is a charge for a 1 month trial of AOL. There is a charge of 35 pence per hour for internet access. There is a charge of 10 pence per hour for AOL. There is a charge of 10 pence per hour for AOL. There is a charge of 10 pence per hour for AOL.

Simply call the number above or return this coupon to the following address:
AOL, FREEPOST, LON15091, LONDON SE21 8BR

YES!! Send me AOL's FREE Trial Pack TODAY!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Postcode: _____

Home phone no: _____

1 Tick this box if you don't wish to receive information about goods and services which may be of interest to you.

PAS3C/12B

Cyprus soldiers win appeal over life terms

But Louise Jensen's killers will spend at least 11 more years in jail, reports Michael Theodoulou from Nicosia

THREE British soldiers who were jailed for life without remission in Cyprus for the murder of a young Danish woman four years ago have won an appeal to have their sentences shortened.

But the island's Supreme Court said that their "atrocious" crime required any new sentence to serve as a deterrent and ruled that each should serve 25 years. It is still one of the most severe sentences handed down for a killing in Cyprus.

Jeff Pernel, 26, from Oldbury, West Midlands; Allan Ford, 30, from Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands; and Justin Fowler, 30, from Constantine, Cornwall, were convicted nearly three years ago of abducting, conspiring to rape and killing Louise Jensen, a 23-year-old tour guide, in September 1994. The three were heavy drinkers known as "the

geezers" to barmen on the island. Ms Jensen's brother and parents were in the Supreme Court yesterday as the judges recalled how she was beaten to death with an army spade, before her naked body, which was almost unrecognisable, was buried in a makeshift grave.

"These men are murderers, they deserve life," her mother, Annette, said.

The three judges said that the trial judges had erred in not taking into account how young the men were and the facts that they had no previous convictions and they were extremely drunk when they killed Miss Jensen.

But the senior judge, George Pikiis, said that the Supreme Court shared the trial judges' "repugnance for the atrocious crimes", which he said were "inhuman in their



Louise Jensen: beaten to death with a shovel

conception and vulgar in their execution".

"The indifference of the appellants towards a human being and their merciless behaviour rank the murder which they committed in the highest degree of seriousness of crimes of manslaughter and the sentence must reflect this," he said.

The new sentence — which counts from the time the sol-

diers were arrested in September 1994 — was a warning to anyone "who seeks to destroy, to humiliate and to take away a human life" that they could not expect leniency from the island's courts, he said.

The soldiers had earlier told reporters that they hoped their sentences would be reduced to a maximum of 15 years. That would have meant, given time already served and remissions for good behaviour, that they could have been freed in four years' time. They could not now expect to leave prison for at least a further 11 years, legal experts said.

The three soldiers, who were serving in Cyprus with the 1st Battalion the Royal Green Jackets, were dishonourably discharged from the Army after their convictions. Their defence and appeal are estimated to have cost the British taxpayer several hundred thousand pounds.

"We were looking for a maximum sentence of 20 years, but at least we got their life sentences overturned," said a defence lawyer, Tassos Katsikides.



Justin Fowler, left, Allan Ford and Jeff Pernel outside the Supreme Court yesterday

NEWS IN BRIEF

Murder hunt over rail death

The death of a man who was run over by a train two years ago is now being treated as murder. Six men and a woman have been arrested and bailed over the death of Ian Lowery, 26, at Churchdown, Gloucester, in July 1996. Police say the investigation has been reopened after new information. An inquest ruled that the death was manslaughter, but Mr Lowery's family were doubtful as his wallet was never found and his body was lying on tracks below a bridge that he usually avoided because of his fear of heights.

Soldiers to testify

Most of the 114 soldiers who opened fire during the Bloody Sunday killings of 14 civilians in Londonderry in 1972 are to give evidence to an inquiry into the deaths. They will be exempt from criminal proceedings arising from the tribunal.

Blunder in stereo

A burglar who unwittingly tried to sell a stolen stereo to his owner, a policeman, was jailed for five years. PC Mark Ranger posed as a buyer after spotting an advertisement placed by Warren Westmoreland, 23, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Beef man waits

Chris Bowman, 39, a landlord accused of serving beef on the bone at his pub near Bishop Thornton, North Yorkshire, had his hearing adjourned for three months to await an expected relaxation of the ban. BSE inquiry, page 11.

Robot trials

Scientists have created a robotic sheepdog that has successfully herded a flock of ducks in trials. The robot, which travels at four metres a second, is part of research into whether animals relate to machines less stressfully than humans.

Cold comfort farm

Seaboard Electricity says it would cost £15,500 to install power at the Kent farmhouse where a widow of 78 lives. May Richards carries candles and kerosene lamps around the cottage and has to go outside to fill a petrol generator.

Lister Hospital

Reports (November 24, 27) of the settlement of a claim for damages by James Williams following an operation at the Lister Hospital, Chelsea, West London, in 1994, failed to make clear that his action, originally started against both the surgeon and the hospital, was discontinued against the hospital in February 1998 on the basis that it was in no way at fault.

Ref halts game after sending off linesman

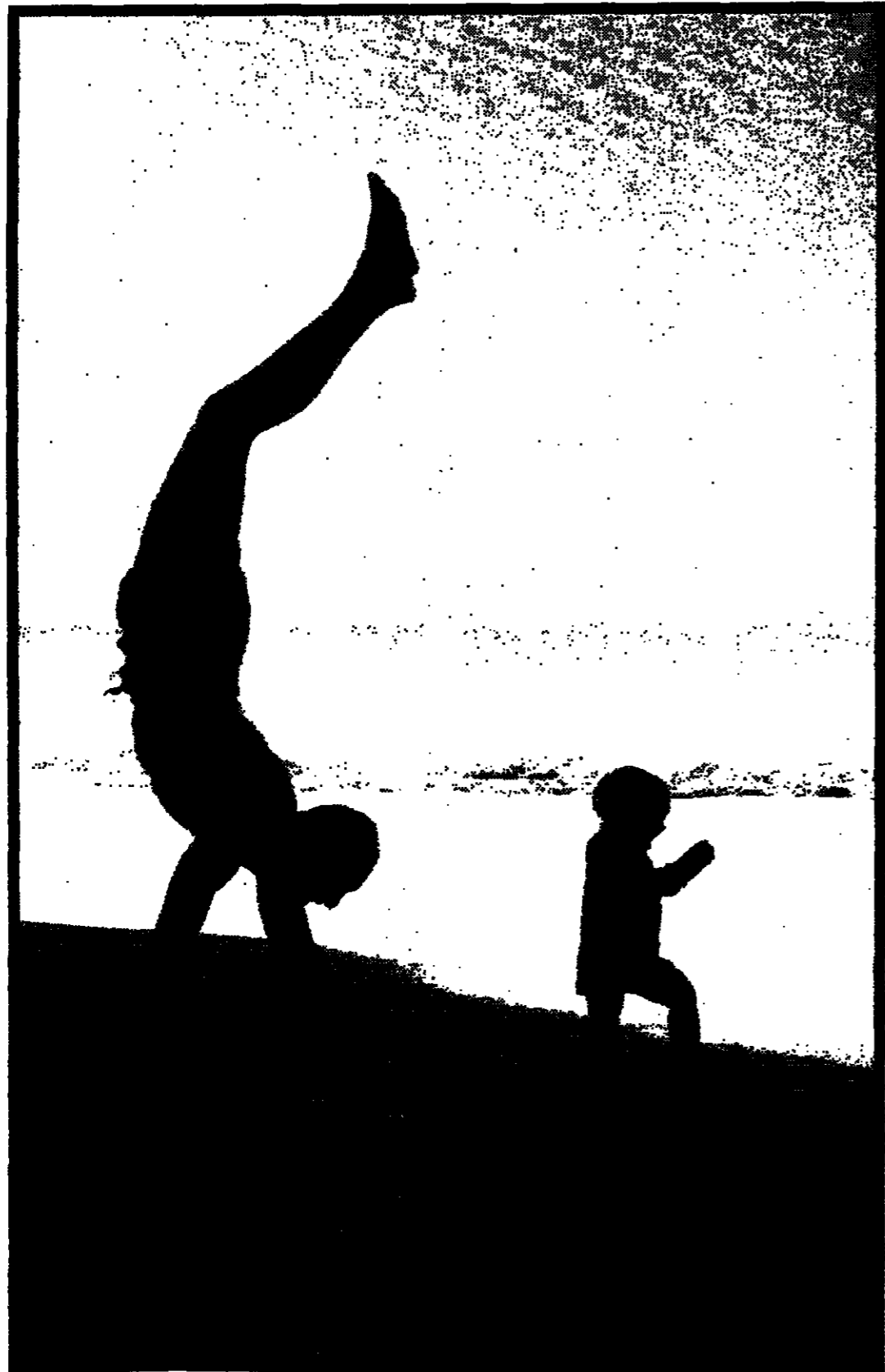
BY ADRIAN LEE

A FOOTBALL match ended in chaos when a referee sent off his linesman. The fixture between Over Wallop reserves and the Lardonke pub was in the balance when the whistle was blown for a free kick. Phil Cooper, the linesman, clearly disagreed, shouting to the referee: "Keep up with the game." To the amazement of the 22 players in the Andover and District Sunday league, in Hampshire, the red card was promptly shown.

Amid heated protests from both sides, Terry Gilligan, 28, the referee, abandoned the game, which Over Wallop were leading 1-0 with just 15 minutes gone. He then walked off with the ball.

The linesman's dissent yesterday earned him a £50 fine and a 91-day ban from the Hampshire Football Association. Mr Cooper, who also happens to be the landlord of the pub against which the free kick was awarded, said: "It is ridiculous. I was standing right by the incident and I don't think the referee was even in the same half." Hampshire FA said Mr Cooper had been fined for misconduct. Mr Gilligan said: "He got what he deserved."

Only one industry provides for the health of our people and the wealth of our nation.



TAKE CARE OF AN INDUSTRY THAT TAKES CARE OF BRITAIN

You can't put a price on the country's health. Or, can you?

For better health brings greater wealth by returning people to work and reducing the burden on social services.

As well as sustaining and improving our health, one industry is contributing significantly to the wealth of our nation - the pharmaceutical industry.

Pharmaceutical companies in Britain have discovered many of the world's best medicines and are pioneering new treatments to help patients in need.

Thanks to advances in medicines, millions of NHS patients can now look forward to a happier and healthier life.

Leading the way in the fight against disease, the pharmaceutical industry in Britain spends more than £6 million every day in the search for new medicines and vaccines.

Investment in medicines often brings savings in other more costly areas of healthcare and can reduce the length of hospital stays.

The pharmaceutical industry is also healthy for the British economy...

It provides quality employment for more than 300,000 people and generates one of Britain's biggest export surpluses - over £2 billion a year.

Medicines are good for our health and the wealth of our nation.

They are one of the best investments Britain can make.



The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry
12 Whitehall London SW1A 2DY

You can't put a price on our Business Starter Pack.

IT'S FREE

If you're thinking of going into business for yourself, you'll find our Starter Pack invaluable.

It includes a business plan, with an in-depth market forecast, on both disk and paper. There's a free copy of the *1998-99 Guide for Small Businesses*, too.

When you're ready to start up, you'll get discounted banking for three months.

And you'll also get the freedom to use one bank fully committed to the success of your business.

For your FREE pack call
0800 056 0056

Ref: TM13F www.lloydsbank.co.uk

Lloyds Bank Business Banking

Our Business Extra package is available to new business start-ups with an anticipated turnover of under £1 million. Full details are available on our website. Some calls may be recorded and monitored. Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS.

Dorrell lack over b

THE former Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell yesterday said the BSE inquiry that he had been asked to chair could have been chaired by Mr Dorrell, the former Health Secretary, between July 1995 and March 1996. He said that the initial statement that beef was safe was "placed by a further decision" of the word, said.

He said that was the reason why the medical and general public had reacted with horror at the announcement in March 1996 that there was a possible link between BSE and BSE. Mr Dorrell told the inquiry that he was "am very conscious of the fact that the BSE inquiry is a very sensitive issue and I think the best way to handle it is to have a chairman who is not a member of the inquiry committee".

Don't pu

The debate over the... already become... and new... week, we have had... on either side, a... alarmist stories about... the Daily Mail and... the dubious use of... veys and a reference... by still at least three... In reality, business... whether Britain should... euro. A majority of bus... als, particularly those... tive European interests... by in favour, while many...

The till... are do... crashe... Tell me... do bus...

Computer chips... so stamping out the... businesses. Find... funded Bug Buster... BOOK A FREE M...

Dorrell admits 'lack of clarity' over beef safety

THE former Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell yesterday told the BSE inquiry that government advice on the safety of beef could have been clearer.

Former Health Secretary tells BSE inquiry of confusion over advice, writes Valerie Elliott

Mr Dorrell, the Conservative Health Secretary between July 1995 and May 1997, said that the initial statement that beef was safe was later replaced by a further definition: "beef is, in the normal usage of the word, safe."

That is the one I then used repeatedly. "Now during the time leading up to March 1996, I think that was what we were seeking to say, but it did not... it was not expressed with that degree of clarity until that usage of words was formulated."

He said that was part of the reason why the media and general public had reacted with horror at the announcement in March 1996 that there was a possible link between new-variant CJD and BSE.

Mr Dorrell also blamed slaughterhouses for undermining public confidence in beef by their failure to remove spinal cord from cattle. He talked of his anger and dismay that instructions by ministers to abattoirs had been ignored.

When Sir John felt comfortable using that formulation,

It was clear that the inquiry is concerned the Government failed to give implicit instructions to slaughterhouses about the need to remove bovine of-fal. June Bridgeman, a former civil servant, and member of the inquiry panel, said abattoirs were not warned "you should operate these otherwise people might die".

and my colleagues felt free to say that beef was safe on the basis that the safeguards were in place and being enforced. So beef is safe given those safeguards, and clearly if the safeguards were not being enforced then we could not have felt that beef was in the normal meaning of the word was safe.

"In these circumstances I am not sure what more ministers can do than to impose a duty on people and put in place furthermore a reporting duty to insure that that duty can be discharged." The Government was formally told in November 1995 that spot checks to insure that beef of-fal was not entering the food chain had found 17 breaches.

But Mrs Bridgeman suggested that the Department of Health should have done more to check what was happening and that food was safe to enter the food chain.

It was during Mr Dorrell's period as Health Secretary that a fourth dairy farmer contracted CJD, raising fears among scientists that BSE could be passed from cattle to men.



How now? Brown meets cow

By MICHAEL HORNSBY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

NICK BROWN, the Agriculture Minister, visiting the Royal Smithfield Show in London yesterday, when he said that he wanted to see an early end to the beef-on-the-bone ban.

Mr Brown said he would like to lift the ban before Christmas, but indicated that a date early in the new year was more likely to allow consultation. He was speaking after receiving a report from scientific advisers which makes no specific recommendation but estimates that the already very small risk to human beings from BSE-infected bone tissue had diminished by a

third to a half over the last 12 months.

The scientists calculate that no more than one or two cattle with infected dorsal root ganglia (DRG), the tissue next to the bone, would enter the food chain next year at a sufficiently advanced stage to pose any realistic risk. This compares with the 3 or 4 animals reckoned to pose the same risk a year ago when the chances of developing the human form of BSE as a result of eating infected bone tissue were put at one in a billion.

Sir John Pattison, the chairman of the Spongiform En-

cephalopathy Advisory Committee (SEAC), made clear that any decision to lift the ban was one for the minister. Sir John said he could not give a guarantee that no one would get new-variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease from eating dorsal root ganglia if the ban were lifted.

The scientists also disclosed that two more people have died from new-variant CJD, making the total since 1995 32.

Professor Peter Smith, another member of SEAC, said that the fact that there had been no sharp increase in the incidence of the disease was

encouraging, though it was still too early to rule out the possibility that it could turn into a large epidemic.

Concern over the possibility that BSE-contaminated beef might infect the spleen yesterday led to a ban on using organs from British patients for a diagnostic test. Spleen tissue is used to test for a rare inflammatory disease, sarcoidosis. From now on, the Kveim Skin Test will have to rely on spleens taken from donors from other countries.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said it was a purely precautionary measure.

Lords set to examine European justice plan

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE House of Lords is to hold an inquiry into plans before the European Parliament for a common judicial system to tackle fraud.

The proposals, drawn up under the aegis of the European Commission, envisage an over-arching European public prosecutor with similar powers to the continental investigating magistrate. Frauds would be tried by specialist judges, with Europe-wide procedures, and not by trial by jury, a proposal already being looked at by the Home Office for serious frauds.

Lord Hope of Craighead, the law lord, is to chair a sub-committee of the Lords' Select Committee on European Communities which will look at the reforms and report by Easter. The ideas are worrying Eurosceptics who see them as a template for a European criminal justice system. They argue that ideas, which they say have been kept under wraps, threaten the British justice system, trial by jury and historic rights such as habeas corpus.

John Spencer, professor of law at Cambridge University and the British member of the eight-member working party which drew up the plans, yesterday dismissed the fears as "europhobic nonsense". The idea, he said, was to find a common way of dealing with European Commission budgetary fraud, which was costing taxpayers billions a year.

Don't put your money on opinion polls debasing the euro

THE debate over the euro has already become fiercely partisan and messy. In the past week, we have had claims about the number of business supporters on either side, a competition in alarmist stories about tax between the *Daily Mail* and *The Sun*, and the dubious use of opinion surveys. And a referendum is probably still at least three years away.

In reality, business is split over whether Britain should enter the euro. A majority of big manufacturers, particularly those with extensive European interests, are broadly in favour, while many compa-

nies with largely domestic operations or those run by their founder entrepreneurs are against. But it is a silly game to count how many businessmen are on either side.

On tax, there is no chance of a uniform level of income tax or of business taxes across Europe. What is being proposed is action against tax havens and anti-competitive subsidies.

Some measures will be in Britain's interests for instance, on citizens' duties to reduce alcohol and tobacco smuggling, while others such as the current version of the withholding tax proposals will

not. Each idea should be judged on its merits. However, Gordon Brown has been in danger of overreacting by being so absolute and vehement in his promise to veto tax harmonisation.



Peter RIDDELL ON POLITICS

economic integration to complement monetary union.

The sceptics are obviously ahead in the polls at present. But the figures are not clearcut. The report in *The Sunday Telegraph* headlined "Biggest ever poll rejects joining euro", with the assertion that "steep public support for entry is in 'steep decline'", was grossly misleading. The *British Social Attitudes* report is a big survey, covering the whole of Europe this year. But the section covering British attitudes to Europe was based on 1,355 interviews, as mentioned at the end of the story. This is fewer than interviewed in most monthly polls.

Moreover, the proportion wanting to "keep the pound as the only currency for Britain" of 61 per cent turns out to be the lowest for five years and down from 68 per cent in 1996. The public is evenly divided

on whether Britain should use its influence to help turn the European Union into either a "trading bloc alone" or a "closer political and economic union".

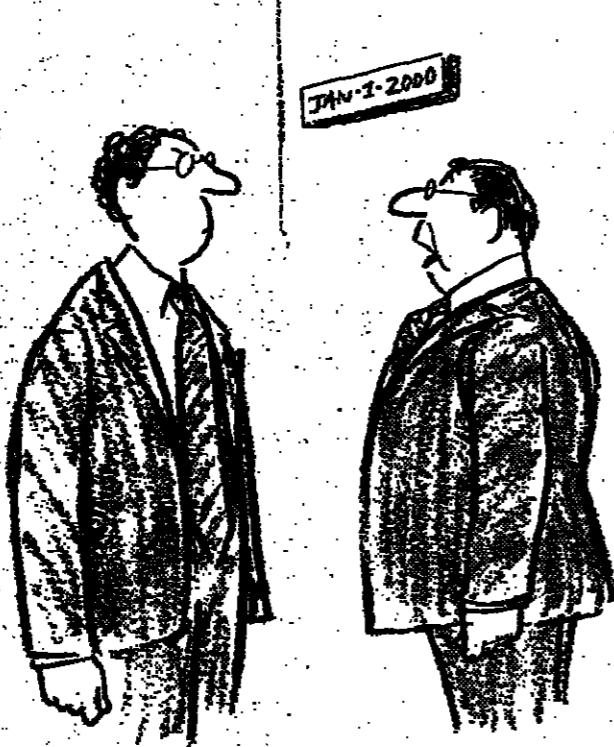
The survey is also not up to date. It was largely conducted between January and April 1997, before the general election, when Euroscepticism was strong. Virtually all recent evidence suggests that the public has become less hostile to Europe since the election. According to a regularly asked MORI question, the number in favour of Britain being part of a single currency has risen from 27 per cent at the

time of the election, when the Social Attitudes survey ended, to 33 per cent this July. The proportion against fell from 54 to 50 per cent. The peak of scepticism was two years ago when just 22 per cent were in favour and 64 per cent against.

When MORI adds the condition of the Government strongly urging British participation, realistic if a referendum is held, the gap falls to 39 per cent in favour with 46 per cent against. So, in practice, there is all to play for. The current lead for the euros is not overwhelming and is probably declining.

The tills are down, the faxes are down, and the payroll's crashed.

Tell me again why I should do business with you?



Computer chips are in all sorts of machinery, not just computers, so stamping out the Millennium Bug will be complicated for many small businesses. Find out how to get it sorted now on a free Government-funded Bug Buster Course. Telephone 0845 609 1100 quoting TMSB.

BOOK A FREE MILLENNIUM BUG BUSTER COURSE NOW 0845 609 1100

BT

Free mobile phone plus connection when you join BT Internet.

The fantastic new offer from BT Internet makes the perfect Christmas gift! Join before December 31st 1998 for only £129.25 and get twelve months Internet access for the cost of eleven. We're giving everyone in the family their own free e-mail address (up to 5) plus giving you space to create your own Web site, and we offer 24-hour help and advice over the phone. In addition, we will give you 50 free hours of BT TalkTime. This means your first 50 hours of surfing are free!

Plus we give you a free mobile phone package option which includes:

- A free Ericsson GA626 (regular Cellnet price: £3.99)
- Free connection to Cellnet's Occasional Caller Plus tariff (regular Cellnet price: £35)
- Up to £5 worth of mobile phone calls free each month
- £50 cashback after you've been connected to Cellnet for three months!

All you pay is a monthly line rental of just £17.50 plus call charges beyond your monthly £5 allowance.

For more information call us today on **Freefone 0800 800 001** or visit www.btinternet.com

BT Internet
Brings you closer

Mobile phone option is conditional on entering into an airtime contract with Cellnet and is subject to terms. To receive £50 cashback you need to submit photographs of your first three arrive bills to Cellnet; see Cellnet terms and conditions supplied with contract. *BT TalkTime refers to calls at BT local weekend rate and is credited to your BT telephone bill. BT TalkTime is a registered trademark of British Telecommunications plc.

Judge orders jail term for Anwar lawyer

THE legal struggle over the future of the former Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister took a dramatic turn yesterday when a judge jailed his leading defence lawyer for contempt of court.

The most articulate of Anwar Ibrahim's defence team, Zainur Zakaria, was ordered to be jailed over allegations that he had interfered in a related case in order to reveal the extent of the attempt to frame Mr Anwar.

Mr Zainur was originally ordered to report to jail by the end of yesterday, but he lodged an appeal which was ordered to put up a surety of 10,000 ringgit (£1,600).

Judge Augustine Paul also issued a warrant for the arrest of Manjeet Singh Dhillion, the defence counsel in a related case.

The order for the arrest of Mr Zainur followed an affidavit he filed last Saturday in an attempt to elicit the truth about a parallel trial in which a former tennis partner of Mr Anwar is accused of possession of more than 200 rounds of ammunition in his home. If found guilty, Nallakuruppan

David Watts reports on a new twist in the trial of the Malaysian politician

Solaimalai faces a mandatory death sentence. The defence says that he held a legal permit for the gun for which the ammunition was intended.

Mr Zainur claimed in his affidavit that Mr Nallakuruppan was offered a deal whereby he would face a lesser charge if he were to give evidence against Mr Anwar of his alleged sexual misconduct. Mr Anwar is charged with sodomy and corruption.

The Government says that when his trial is over he will face further charges. It is believed he will be accused of sexual misbehaviour with five women and that the testimony sought from Mr Nallakuruppan related to these charges. The document cited by the defence included a letter from Mr Manjeet to the Attorney-

General, Mohar Abdullah, dated October 12, which accused the chief prosecutor in the Anwar trial, Abdul Ghani Patail, of seeking Mr Nallakuruppan's testimony in return for the lesser charge.

The judge in Mr Nallakuruppan's trial has questioned the prosecution evidence which included a photograph of the ammunition, allegedly taken in the defendant's home, which had apparently been taken elsewhere.

Judge Paul ruled in the Anwar trial that Mr Manjeet's account of the meeting was inadmissible evidence. Mr Zainur had sought to call Mr Manjeet in Mr Anwar's defence. Mr Zainur refused to apologise for filing the affidavit and the judge therefore acted against him.

The judge said he had to impose a three-month sentence to "ensure the integrity of this trial". Where this leaves Mr Anwar's trial is not clear.

But the defence will not be willing to continue the hearings without the man who has already shredded the Government's case against the former favourite of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister.



Zainur Zakaria, the principal lawyer defending Malaysia's former Deputy Prime Minister, leaving court yesterday after his sentence to three months for contempt

US pleads for restraint in south Lebanon

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND NICHOLAS BLANDFORD IN BEIRUT

THE United States has entered the latest Middle East crisis with an urgent demand that Israel, Syria and Lebanon show "maximum restraint" in south Lebanon and avoid escalating the conflict which has seen seven Israeli soldiers killed in a fortnight.

Washington's bid to cool tempers in advance of a trip to the region by President Clinton this month came in a strongly worded message from Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State.

American officials were anxious that Israel might strike at sites near Syrian army positions in Lebanon after a number of ministers called for retaliation against civilian facilities there in response to attacks on Israeli troops by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah (Party of God) militia.

"Let Beirut wake up in the morning without water and electricity and then, believe me, they [the Lebanese] will send forces to restrain Hezbollah and so will the Syrians," said Avigdor Kahalani, the Internal Security Minister - a call which gained wide support from Israelis across the political spectrum. Mr Kahalani made the point that such attacks would also hit the Syrian regime of President Assad because it has expanding economic interests in the construction boom in Beirut.

The picture is further clouded by a political impasse in Lebanon, piqued at a lack of overwhelming support from the parliament, Rafik Hariri, Lebanon's acting Prime Minister, yesterday ruled himself out of consideration as head of the next administration, a decision that has been accepted by the new Lebanese President, Emile Lahoud.

Mr Hariri's decision not to stand came after he received the backing of only 65 per cent of the parliament which, although a legally binding ma-



Hariri: decided not to stand for re-election

majority, was far below the massive endorsements that he has received in the past.

Diplomatic sources said that the US was expected to follow up its initiative to try to prevent a further escalation in the fighting by seeking to re-open Israeli-Syrian peace negotiations. These have been in limbo since 1996 over the vexed question of the future of the strategic Golan Heights.

The issue of where the talks left off is the main disagreement between Syria and Israel. The Syrians claim Israel's previous Labour Government offered to return the whole of the Golan in exchange for a full peace, but the proposal was never made officially.

The present right-wing Government led by Benjamin Netanyahu says a proposal never made officially does not count. "We are prepared to enter into renewed negotiations with Syria, but we are not prepared to accept dictation of terms that in fact empty the negotiations of all content", he told Israel radio.

Washington: Mr Clinton announced plans yesterday to boost US aid to the Palestinians to \$900 million over the next five years. Opening a conference of more than 40 countries to pledge aid to the Palestinians, the President also appealed for contributions from other countries.

Women US gang

New York Prosecutors say street gangs has preyed on young women. Sea-crimes investigator in Brooklyn complains of cases involving women very long time, and in one pending case facing up to 25 years in long gang rape case. Police say they take turns in rape.

PoWs' smarm

Tokyo: A court here has ordered \$13,500 brought by the British during the war. But in contrast PoWs, it acknowledged international law and civilian internment, sex slave for Japanese.

Blasts rock

Manila: A presidential order has ordered the army base 75 miles from the city and sending sharpshooters in the blast, which windows of houses. The incident was blamed on a change in the

Keatings to

Sydney: Paul Keating and his Dutch-born wife are to separate. The former Prime Minister decided to separate after a decade to respect their children. Keating has been married but has maintained



Four die in

Kiev: At least four people were killed in a stampede in Ukraine in a stadium. "There was a crush of the youngsters starting to were trying to leave the stadium. Chervonograd stadium victims were used

Death for fa

Amman: A criminal court has sentenced a teenager for murdering a man who had all his fingers cut off. Muhammad Al-Jarrah, 19, who cut off his brothers, four sisters and one sister, as well as

Advent

The UK's first PC with built-in re-recordable CD-ROM

Whether you want to store music or video, or back-up documents or data, you can now record onto a CD-ROM. And not just once, but again and again.

Advent PCs deliver high spec computing at prices which are stripped to the bone. They're built with high quality, top brand name components, offering superb multimedia capability with extensive space for upgrading.

Advent
HIGH SPEC, HIGH QUALITY, FACTORY PRICE

Advent 450MHz Intel Pentium II Processor

- Hitachi CD-Rom Re-writer
 - Intel Pentium II Processor 450MHz with 512K Cache
 - 128MB Synchronous DRAM
 - 3.5GB Western Digital UltraDMA Hard Disk Drive
 - 6MB AT system clock 2D/3D Graphics Card
 - Powered Stereo Speakers and Subwoofer
 - 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
 - V90 Diamond 56K Data/Fax Modem
 - Microsoft Windows 98
 - Microsoft Home Essentials
 - Mini Tower case with Intel Motherboard and Award BIOS
 - Windows 98 PS/2 Keyboard and PS/2 Mouse
 - 1 x AGP Slot (used) ● 4 x PCI Slots (1 used) ● 3 x ISA Slots (1 used)
 - 2 x USB Ports, 1 x Parallel Port, 2 x Serial Ports
- MODEL: Build to Order Home Delivery 671273/642758
12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*
1 YEAR FREE ON-SITE SERVICING
- £1499** EX VAT
Upgrade to 17" Monitor for only £90 ex VAT (£105.75 inc VAT)

350MHz DVD for under £1000!

- 350MHz Intel Pentium II Processor
 - 64MB Fast 100MHz Synchronous DRAM
 - 4.3GB Fujitsu UltraDMA Hard Disk
 - 512K Cache memory
 - Intel 440BX Chipset
 - Hitachi 2nd generation DVD-ROM Drive
 - 8MB AGP 3D ATI Rage Pro Graphics Card
 - 64 Voice PCI (V.90) Modem
 - 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
 - Microsoft Home Essentials
 - 1.44/3.5 Floppy Disk Drive
 - 2 x USB Ports, 1 x AGP Port, 4 x PCI Slots and 3 x ISA Slots
 - MODEL: Build to Order Home Delivery 671271/642758
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*
1 YEAR FREE ON-SITE SERVICING
- £849** EX VAT

350MHz

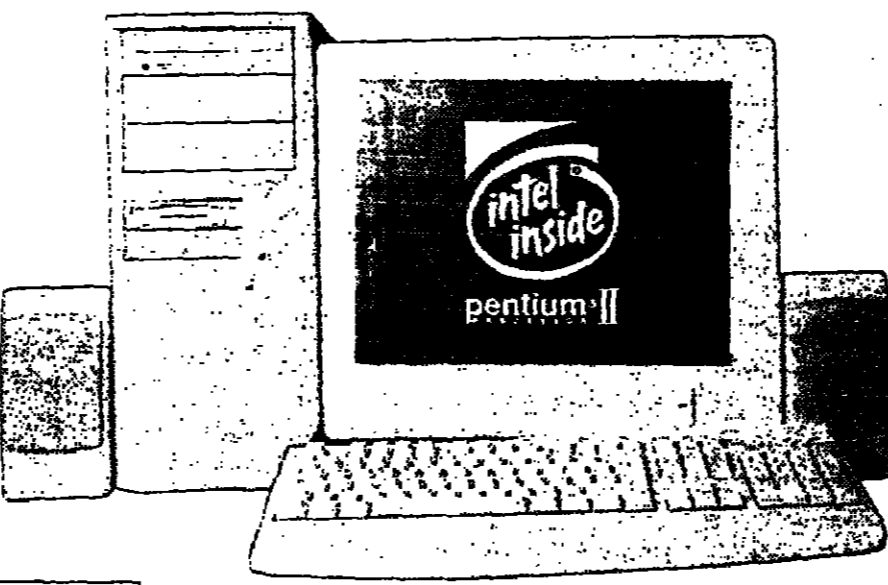
- 350MHz Intel Pentium II Processor
 - 64MB Fast 100MHz Synchronous DRAM
 - 4.3GB Fujitsu UltraDMA Hard Disk
 - 512K Cache memory
 - Intel 440BX Chipset
 - Hitachi 2nd generation DVD-ROM Drive
 - 8MB AGP 3D ATI Rage Pro Graphics Card
 - 64 Voice PCI (V.90) Modem
 - 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
 - Microsoft Home Essentials
 - 1.44/3.5 Floppy Disk Drive
 - 2 x USB Ports, 1 x AGP Port, 4 x PCI Slots and 3 x ISA Slots
 - MODEL: Build to Order Home Delivery 671271/642758
9 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*
1 YEAR FREE ON-SITE SERVICING
- £749** EX VAT

450MHz

- 450MHz Intel Pentium II Processor
 - 128MB Synchronous DRAM
 - 3.5GB Western Digital UltraDMA Hard Disk Drive
 - 6MB AT system clock 2D/3D Graphics Card
 - Powered Stereo Speakers and Subwoofer
 - 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
 - V90 Diamond 56K Data/Fax Modem
 - Microsoft Windows 98
 - Microsoft Home Essentials
 - Mini Tower case with Intel Motherboard and Award BIOS
 - Windows 98 PS/2 Keyboard and PS/2 Mouse
 - 1 x AGP Slot (used) ● 4 x PCI Slots (1 used) ● 3 x ISA Slots (1 used)
 - 2 x USB Ports, 1 x Parallel Port, 2 x Serial Ports
 - MODEL: Build to Order Home Delivery 671273/642758
12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE OPTION*
1 YEAR FREE ON-SITE SERVICING
- £1039** EX VAT

Upgrade to 17" Monitor for only £90 ex VAT (£105.75 inc VAT)

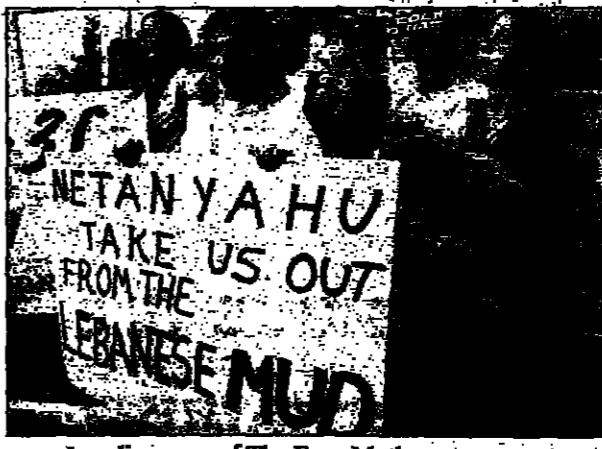
Advent offers a total range of PCs at factory prices from **£599** ex VAT - **£1799** ex VAT



Advent available at
PC WORLD
THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE

1 YEAR'S FREE ON-SITE SERVICING
24 HOUR HELPLINE 365 DAYS A YEAR

Call 0990 464 464 for your nearest store



Israeli women of The Four Mothers movement demand an army pullout from south Lebanon

AN EXCLUSIVE READER OFFER

THE TIMES

Make your family or friends living abroad feel at home this

CHRISTMAS

Set up a subscription to *The Times* for them at substantial discounts off local cover price and let them enjoy early morning delivery on the day of publication.

THE TIMES. Your family and friends are missing the best of quality reading without it

COUNTRY	CURRENCY	SUBSCRIPTION RATES			
		THREE MONTHS ON COVER PRICE	SIX MONTHS	THREE MONTHS	SIX MONTHS
FRANCE	FRANCS	1200	2400	1800	3600
GERMANY	DM	1200	2400	1800	3600
NETHERLANDS	FL	1200	2400	1800	3600
SPAIN	PTAS	1200	2400	1800	3600
SWITZERLAND	FRS	1200	2400	1800	3600
USA/CANADA	US\$	1200	2400	1800	3600

The Times Subscription Form

Family/Friend's Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Yes! I want to receive THE TIMES for:

12 months 6 months 3 months

Monday to Saturday Saturday only

Payment by:

Cheque (made payable to News International)

Credit card (VISA Mastercard/Access Amex)

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

(* Debited in £ Sterling at the current exchange rate)

CHANGING RATES

CITY BREAK
Inclusive City
All offers include return travel

LISBON
*** Embassy
Additional nights £184

VENICE
*** At Sea
Additional nights £109

BARCELONA
*** City
Additional nights £169

MADRID
*** City
Additional nights £157

AMSTERDAM
*** City
Additional nights £119

0171-565
CITYTRAVELLER

WORLD IN BRIEF

Women 'leading US gang rapes'

New York Prosecutors believe that an upsurge in New York street gangs has produced a new breed of female rapist who preys on young women and children (James Bone writes). Sex-crimes investigators in the gang-ridden borough of Brooklyn complain about an increase in the number of rape cases involving female suspects. "I've been doing this for a very long time, and I never had one of these cases until the past two years. Now it's not uncommon," Rhonnie Jais, a veteran local prosecutor, told the *New York Post*.

PoWs' small victory

Tokyo: A court here dismissed a compensation lawsuit for \$13,500 brought by eight Dutch prisoners of the Japanese military during the Second World War (Robert Wymant writes). But in contrast to last week's case involving British PoWs, it acknowledged that their inhumane treatment violated international law. The suit was brought by Dutch PoWs and civilian internees, including a woman forced to serve as a sex slave for Japanese troops.

Blasts rock army base

Manila: A pre-dawn fire triggered the explosion of 500lb bombs and hundreds of rockets at a northern Philippine army base 75 miles north of here, demolishing nine buildings and sending shrapnel flying, police said. No one was injured in the blasts, which went on for three hours and shattered windows of houses and shops more than a mile away. The incident was blamed on a chemical reaction of old ammunition due to a change in the weather. (Reuters)

Keatings to separate

Sydney: Paul Keating, the former Australian Prime Minister, and his Dutch-born wife, Anita, below, have announced that they are to separate after 23 years of marriage. In a statement, the former Labor leader and his wife said they had decided to separate amicably and asked for the public and media to respect their privacy and that of their four children. Mr Keating has been out of politics since losing the 1996 election, but has maintained a high profile in Asia. (AFP)



Four die in film crush

Kiev: At least four children were trampled to death in western Ukraine in a stampede to see the American film *Armageddon*. "There was a lot of violent pushing and shoving when the youngsters started rushing into the cinema while others were trying to leave at the end of the first showing," said Yaroslav Klimovich, administrator at the cinema in the town of Chervonograd. Six children were still in hospital. Most of the victims were aged 11-14. (AP, AFP)

Death for family killer

Amman: A criminal court sentenced to death a Jordanian teenager for murdering 11 members of his family and a friend who had all harassed him about his failures in school. Judge Muhammad Ajamihi rejected a plea of mercy from Saeed Qashash, 19, who confessed to shooting his father, mother, two brothers, four sisters and the husband and two children of one sister, as well as the 19-year-old schoolfriend. (AP)

Hanks regrets his cash aid for Clinton

Tinseltown may be deserting the President, writes Ian Brodie

TOM Hanks, Hollywood's leading good-guy actor, now "regrets" making a generous donation to President Clinton's legal defence fund because of what he has since learned about the Monica Lewinsky scandal. His change of heart makes him the first of Mr Clinton's many Hollywood friends and supporters to defect publicly.

"We gave ten thousand bucks early on," the star told *The New Yorker*. The sum, equivalent to just over £5,000, was the maximum permitted for each contributor to help Mr Clinton to pay legal bills that will run to millions. Mr Hanks, a moderately conservative Democrat, continued: "In all honesty, in the light of events since, it would be awful hard to say now, 'Oh, here, let me help you out with this problem!'"

The fund took in \$2 million from 8,000 contributors from February until August when Mr Clinton admitted he had misled people in denying a sexual relationship with Ms Lewinsky. An official for the fund refused to say yesterday if contributions had gone up or down since his admission.

Even with the \$2 million, the Clintons are well short of covering legal bills that could reach \$10 million. Mr Hanks and his second wife, Rita Wilson, an actress, have stayed overnight at the White House three times in the last five years, a courtesy the Clintons extended to other Hollywood chums.

Yet Mr Hanks has never felt fully at ease in the President's company. He explained: "I'm friendly with him, but I don't think I've ever had a true connective conversation with him. I just can't. I'm still too much in the 'jeepers, creepers, he's talking to me' kind of thing."



Tom Hanks and his wife, Rita Wilson, encounter President Clinton during a state reception and dinner at the White House organised early this year

Other Hollywood "Clintonists" have been relatively quiet of late about Mr Clinton's

woes. But the elite were all nodding in agreement at a fundraiser for him just over a month ago when Ms Streisand fiercely attacked the President's enemies.

"They were out to get him from day one," she said. She accused Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, of entrapping Mr Clinton in a "reprehensible" sting.

If you like BT's 1471, why not try Caller Display?



BT's Caller Display tells you who's calling before you answer.

BT's 1471 tells you who called last. Wouldn't you now like to be able to see who's calling before you pick up the phone? Well, you can with BT's Caller Display service. Because, when your phone rings, the name or number of the person calling simply shows up on the display screen*. You'll even be able to see the numbers of previous callers, so you'll

know who phoned while you were out. Caller Display, Ring Back along with Call Waiting and Call Minder are just some of the Select Services you can choose to make your phone work harder for you. And if you sign up now, you'll get 250 minutes of local weekend calls per month. These are just a few of the many reasons for being with BT.



To find out more, Freefone 0808 100 8877.

*TO USE CALLER DISPLAY, YOU MUST HAVE COMPATIBLE EQUIPMENT, SOLD SEPARATELY BY BT AND OTHER SUPPLIERS. NUMBERS WILL NOT BE DISPLAYED IF CALLS ARE MADE USING A BT CHARGECARD, MOBILE PHONES, SOME NON-BT NETWORKS, OR IF THE CALLER HAS WITHHELD THEIR NUMBER. IF YOU WANT YOUR NUMBER TO BE WITHHELD, DIAL 141 BEFORE THE NUMBER YOU'RE CALLING EVEN IF YOU'RE EX-DIRECTORY. THE CALLER DISPLAY SERVICE IS AVAILABLE TO SINGLE LINE CUSTOMERS IN AREAS SERVED BY A DIGITAL EXCHANGE.

CITY BREAK SALE

Inclusive City Breaks
All offers include return travel & 1st night's B&B

LISBON £184
• *** Embassador
• Additional nights £21

ROME £189
• *** central hotels
• Additional nights £22
• BA flts Gatwick & Manchester 01-11 Dec & 05 Jan-09 Mar

VENICE £109
• *** Al Sole Palace
• Additional nights £32
• Only 08-27 Dec & 03-28 Jan from Stansted

BARCELONA £169
• ** Santmarta
• Additional nights £21

MADRID £157
• *** Cliper
• Additional nights £22

PARIS £99
• *** Akona
• *15 supp. flt from London, Birmingham & Manchester
• £108 by air from London, Birmingham & Manchester

AMSTERDAM £119
• *** Acro
• Additional nights £26

• All hotels centrally located and with ensuite facilities.
Also: Bruges from £130, Brussels from £116, Budapest from £246, Dublin from £106, Florence from £223, Istanbul from £278, Lille from £105, Nice from £193, Prague from £244, Seville from £228, and Vienna from £214.
Prices are lowest available and based upon 2 sharing and subject to availability. Flights usually based upon British Airways from London, Manchester and other airports are available, and may include a supplement. Airport taxes included.

Reservations phone Monday to Friday 09.00 to 18.00 hrs
0171-565 6677
CITYTRAVELLER DIRECT LTD

US car giants 'helped Nazi war machine'

FORD and General Motors have joined the growing list of companies accused of collaborating with the Nazis.

The charges framed by historians and lawyers — and quickly denied by the car companies — were made public on the eve of a major Washington conference about Holocaust compensation.

If the accusations stand up — and Ford has mobilised scores of lawyers to contest a class action suit — it would mean American forces landed in occupied Europe kitted out with trucks, tanks and aircraft manufactured by Ford and GM, and battled against Germans equipped by the same companies.

The Washington conference, bringing together 44 countries, is supposed to find a financial solution to outstanding claims by families of Jews murdered in the Holocaust. This includes insurance claims which were never settled for murdered Central Eu-

Ford and GM deny claims they supplied Hitler's forces, Roger Boyes writes in Bonn

European Jews and the fate of looted paintings valued at up to \$140 billion (£85 billion).

But the conference will also influence the legal climate in the United States, where lawyers have launched class action suits against companies which used slave labour during the Second World War.

So far the cases have been pitted against big-name German companies such as Volkswagen, Siemens and Degussa, most of which have admitted some degree of moral responsibility for their actions.

According to a historical researcher, Bradford Snell, Ford and GM helped Hitler's war effort. "General Motors was far more important to the Nazi war machine than Switzerland," said Mr Snell, who has spent 20 years researching a history of the company. "Switzerland was just a repository of looted funds, while GM was an integral part of the German war effort."

Ford and General Motors deny that they had control over their German subsidiaries after Hitler had declared war on America in December 1941. A Ford spokesman said that Ford headquarters was usually kept in the dark by the German managers. GM also stresses that the company did not "assist the Nazis in any way during the war".

But researchers claim they have turned up cases of German car executives meeting secretly in neutral countries such as Portugal with representatives from Detroit.

Hitler made no secret of his admiration for American mass-production techniques and the Volkswagen factory in Wolfsburg was deliberately modelled on Ford. "I regard Henry Ford as my inspiration," Hitler told an American reporter two years before becoming the German Chancellor in 1933.

Ford wrote anti-Semitic pamphlets and tried to keep America out of the war: in 1938 he accepted the highest medal that Nazi Germany could award to a foreigner, the Grand Cross of the German Eagle. In the same year, a senior executive for General Motors received a similar medal. Later, Henry Ford renounced his anti-Semitic writings.

General Motors' involvement in Germany began in 1925 when it opened a new factory near Berlin to make trucks which a few years later would be used by the German Army for its attacks on Poland, France and the Soviet Union. German Ford was the second largest producer of trucks for the German Army.



Henry Ford's assembly-line techniques proved an inspiration to Adolf Hitler, who kept a portrait of the American car-maker on his desk. German Ford was the second largest producer of trucks for the German Army



Paris accused of delays in hunt for Holocaust booty

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE leader of the Jewish community in France has accused government officials of delaying tactics in the search for property stolen from Jews in the Second World War and still held in banks, insurance firms or state museums.

Henri Hajdenberg, head of the Representative Council of Jewish Institutions, told Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Prime Minister, that a project to trace the rightful owners of looted property, launched by the previous conservative Government, was far behind schedule.

"Because of a lack of sufficient funds, and lack of goodwill in certain ministries and official bodies, we fear the final official report will not be completed before 2000," M Hajdenberg said at an annual dinner hosted by the Jewish organisation.

M Jospin denied that officials were deliberately dragging their feet, but he pledged additional funds for the commission set up to explore the provenance of artworks, property and other assets that were stolen from Jews and are still in the possession of French institutions.

M Hajdenberg said that valuable paintings still held in French museums after being confiscated from Jews, who were then murdered in concentration camps and left no heirs, should be sold and the proceeds used to finance Holocaust memorials.

In the same way, gold that had been stolen by the Nazis and recovered by the French authorities, should be employed to help needy survivors of the camps, he said.

Opening a Museum of Jewish Art and History in Paris yesterday, President Chirac also emphasised the need to compensate Jews robbed in France during the war.

"Today I think of the millions of men, women and children who became victims of the murderous madness of the Nazis and their accomplices. The issue of compensation, it is true, must henceforth be dealt with as a matter of urgency," M Chirac said.

□ Tel Aviv: France yesterday denied Israeli accusations that the French

National Archives was withholding information on the genocide of Jews by Nazis during the war.

The French Embassy here issued a statement expressing "astonishment at these charges, which are totally baseless".

The statement said National Archives documents concerning the period of the Nazi occupation had already been unsealed "and an inventory of the archives is in the process of being published". It added that they were already widely used by researchers.

The French National Archives was included on a blacklist published by the Israeli Government last week of state and private organisations which were refusing to release key documents concerning the Holocaust.

The list was drawn up by Bobby Brown, adviser on diaspora affairs to Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, to be submitted to an international conference — which opened yesterday in Washington — on lost or hidden assets of the Holocaust era. (AFP)

Young French duped by 2000 pledge

BY BEN MACINTYRE

MILLENNIUM celebrations have been spoilt for thousands of French teenagers who sent money to a group that was set up to mark the arrival of 2000. The group — *Avenir 20 ans en l'an 2000* (20 years old in the year 2000) — has since vanished.

The association was launched with great fanfare in 1996 as a club for all French people born in 1980 who would celebrate their 20th birthdays in 2000.

It promised to provide "hot" trips, studies, research, trips, shows, competitions and television programmes. To obtain price reductions "on many goods and services", members were asked to send a cheque for Fr120 (€12).

The launch received huge publicity across France, and of the 780,000 teenagers eligible to join, more than 50,000 duly wrote in.

New members received two magazines and their cheques had been cashed before the association closed down its Paris office and disappeared several months ago, leaving no forwarding address.

In its publicity material, the organisers of the club said: "Some of you, when we get to the years 2010-2020, will really be holding the reins in our society, and it is precisely to give you the maximum opportunity to succeed in the best conditions that this association has been formed."

The group may have vanished long before fulfilling its promises, but at least it has taught 50,000 French adolescents that you should not always believe what you read.

"My son... was intrigued by the marvelous promises. In the end, we only got two magazines for Fr120. We are disgusted," G el Giraud said.



The VW Beetle was Hitler's way of repeating Ford's success in America — a motor car for the masses

"NICKY LETS YOU BE ANYONE YOU WANT TO BE THIS CHRISTMAS."

I found Nicky Clark's Flexi-Stylers so easy to use, letting me hang loose, get tight or be anyone I want to be. Unlike ordinary electric curlers, Nicky's Flexi-Stylers are long and flexible giving me more room to create perfect curls and waves. Nicky Clarke Hairromatherapy Style and Shine Serum gives me long-lasting style and unbeatable shine. A free trial size comes with your set of Flexi-Stylers. Nicky Clarke Hairromatherapy. The essence of beautiful hair.

*FLEXI-STYLER'S ARE AVAILABLE AT BOOTS, CURRY'S AND OTHER LEADING RETAILERS AND MAIL ORDER CATALOGUES. HAIRROMATHERAPY PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE AT BOOTS, SUPERDRUG AND ALL LEADING GROCERY, CHEMIST AND DRUG RETAILERS.

Jets forced to 'fly blind' over Russia

FROM ANNA BLUNDY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIAN air traffic controllers joke grimly that ageing equipment and staff cutbacks have reduced their duties to simply noting down take-offs and landings. There have been 36 air crashes in the Rus-

sian Air Force alone over the past six years, claiming 276 lives.

A report in *Novye Izvestia* said that Russian planes had been "flying blind" since the closure of dozens of air traffic control centres across the country. The fact that Russia can barely afford to maintain its

ageing fleet of planes is already well known.

Even at Sheremetevo II, Moscow's international airport, air traffic controllers often have to visualise the positions of incoming planes mentally when equipment fails, the report alleges. Instructions, says the Union of Air

Traffic Controllers, are often based on guesswork. To economise, many regional airports have limited take-offs and landings to daylight hours, meaning that these airports are unmanned overnight, despite the fact that many Russian and foreign airlines use them for emergencies.

Army gives warning to Ankara

FROM ANDREW FINKEL IN ISTANBUL

TURKEY'S generals have cautioned the country's feuding politicians to avoid action that could draw the military back into politics.

A statement by the joint chiefs of staff urged party leaders to get on with forming a new government. This appeared to be a response to a claim by Recai Kutan, head of the Virtue Party — the successor to the pro-Islamic Welfare Party, banned nearly a year ago — that the military found his party acceptable.

Mr Kutan controls the largest bloc in the current parliament and argued that President Demirel should ask him to form a government. Turkey's three-party coalition collapsed after it failed a vote of confidence last week.

It seems unlikely, however, that Mr Kutan will have his way. One of the last acts of the coalition was to drop investigations into corruption involving Tansu Ciller, leader of the right-wing True Path Party, and Mesut Yilmaz, the caretaker Prime Minister. This has led to speculation that the two bitter rivals might resolve their difference to form a new coalition with a third party.

The influential National Security Council met yesterday to consider the current crisis and the timing of the next election. The council urged changes in a law which schedules polling to coincide with local elections in April.

Many believe that under the current voting system the Virtue Party has a good chance of again emerging as the largest party — albeit without an absolute majority.

HSBC Midland Bank

Notice to cardholders

Midland Bank announces the following decrease in its interest rates. Effective from (and including) 1 January 1999.

Standard Monthly Interest rate	Rate
Midland MasterCard/Visa, Combined & Student Accounts	1.61%
Up to and including 31/12/98	1.54%
1/1/99 onwards	1.54%

• Terms & Conditions will be varied accordingly with effect from the date above

HSBC is the marketing name of Midland Bank plc.



General Clark, in command of Nato forces in Kosovo

Snatch squad role for troops

BY MICHAEL... DE LINDA...

BRITAIN is to provide the largest number of troops to be placed on standby in Macedonia to rescue national peace monitors in the neighbouring province of Kosovo.

Under the overall command of a French officer, General Marcel Valentin, the British force will be made up of 500 troops, mostly unarmoured, and Wesley Clark, Nato's supreme Allied Commander in Europe — the 500 British troops are expected to leave for Kosovo in the next few days.

They will join 300 German troops, 200 to 250 American troops and 400 British troops from the Netherlands and Belgium.

Their role will be to guard Kosovo by helicopter armoured vehicles in the 2,000 members of the United Nations Security Council Co-operation in Europe mission team being sent to monitor the peace process between Belgrade and the Albanian guerrillas.

A small contingent of British soldiers will provide security for the snatch squad headquarters, which is to be based in manovo in northern Macedonia. About 500 United Nations peacekeeping troops from American, Norwegian, Finnish — are already in Kosovo.

The British contingent will consist of 500 troops from the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Royal Border Regiment, Yorkshire, supported by signals and transport specialists.

Latest D print scanner

Pay nothing for a year. Offer extended by popular demand

What a package! The superb graphics quality and outstanding storage capacity of DVD. A brilliant Epson printer. Genuine top quality Microsoft software for £830. Plus a free colour scanner. And you don't need to pay a penny for 12 months (see details below). How do we do it? Simple. By making and selling direct to you at unbeatable prices. See this special value PC, and other systems for just £599, at your nearest Fry's showroom. But make it quick. An offer like this can't last long.

Epson Stylus 300 Colour Printer

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A FREE SPECIAL OFFER CALL 0800 731 9...

NOTHING TO PAY

THE BEST THINGS THIS CHRISTMAS

British peace monitors hold Kosovo line



General Clark in charge of Nato forces in Europe

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ORAHOVAC, KOSOVO



...said a Serb journalist in Belgrade. "Then the threat of Nato bombing again — and then peace." In the meantime, some of the 250,000 ordinary Albanians who fled in the summer as Serb forces shelled and burnt alleged KLA strongholds are tentatively returning.

Like the other monitors, Andy — dressed in a lumberjack shirt and mountain boots — has an impressive grasp of the flashpoints between Muslim Albanians and Orthodox Serbs, as well as other minorities who make up the Balkans ethnic mix. "We are on friendly terms with the Serbs and the KLA," he said. "But you feel the tension underneath."

'The British are our saviours. While they are here, the Serbs will not attack'

The betting in Prizren and Pristina is that, as long as Kosovo is in the throes of winter, both the Serb forces and the KLA will confine themselves to minor shootouts, which are investigated and reported to the OSCE by the monitors.

Under the ceasefire agreed on 12 October after the threat of Nato airstrikes, some Serb special forces have pulled out. But as you drive through the deserted villages near Prizren you can spot Serb armoured cars being kept out of sight in depots and outhouses, while the increasingly well-armed KLA hides not far away in apparently abandoned houses.

"Come the spring, there will be more massacres, more bat-

les," said a Serb journalist in Belgrade. "Then the threat of Nato bombing again — and then peace." In the meantime, some of the 250,000 ordinary Albanians who fled in the summer as Serb forces shelled and burnt alleged KLA strongholds are tentatively returning.

In the wrecked town of Orahovac, where 16 British monitors moved in at the weekend, we found Samedin Sytkas, 70, clearing away rubble with his sons and grandchildren in their four-storey home in the town centre. "The Serbs started shelling, then they set fire to the houses with flame-throwers," he said. Seven of his family died, including children and the elderly. The Sytkas are farmers, but their tractors and trucks are burnt-out shells.

An icy wind whistles through the smashed windows of the house, in which Samedin and his sons have managed to make one room habitable with salvaged carpets and a wood stove. "I remember the German and Italian wartime occupation, and Tito's rule," Samedin said, as we sat by the stove drinking coffee and saki, the local firewater. "Nothing was as bad as this."

Outside two British Land Rovers patrolled, the bright orange vehicles — dubbed "pumpkins" by the verifiers — looking surreal amid the ruins. Had the British made a difference? The old man's face lit up. "They are our saviours," he said. "As long as the British are here, the Serbs will not attack us." Some ethnic Albanians — who make up 90 per cent of Kosovo's population — believe the monitors can work miracles by ending the war and bringing them independence, or at least autonomy.

In Orahovac, Ian Macleod, a retired paratrooper commander who volunteered for the mission, said: "We cannot solve Kosovo, but we can help to heal the legacy of bitterness. Our job is to hold the line, be visible, and bring towns and roads back to life. It's a small start, but by Christmas we will know how we are doing."

Snatch squad role for troops

By MICHAEL EVANS DEFENCE EDITOR

BRITAIN is to provide the second largest number of personnel to Nato's "snatch squad" to be placed on stand-by in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to rescue the international peace monitors in the neighbouring Serbian province of Kosovo if need be.

Under the overall command of a French officer, General Marcel Valentine — ultimately answerable to General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander Europe — the 500 British troops are expected to leave for Macedonia in the next two weeks. They will join 700 French troops, 200 to 250 Germans, 150 each from Italy and The Netherlands and 40 Greeks.

Their role will be to enter Kosovo by helicopter and armoured vehicle to evacuate the 2,000 members of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe verification team being sent to Kosovo to monitor the peace deal between Belgrade and the majority Albanian community.

A small contingent of Turkish soldiers will provide security for the snatch squad headquarters, which is to be at Kumanovo in northern Macedonia. About 800 United Nations peacekeeping troops — American, Norwegian and Finnish — are already there.

The British contribution will consist of 350 soldiers from the 1st Battalion King's Own Royal Border Regiment, Yorkshire, supported by signals and transport specialists.

Genocide charge for 'Serb Adolf'

FROM TOM WALKER IN SARAJEVO

A FORMER prison guard known as the "Serb Adolf" yesterday became the second Bosnian war crimes suspect to face The Hague international tribunal's most serious charge of genocide.

Goran Jelenc, 30, has pleaded guilty to murders, beatings and looting in the spring of 1992, for which he faces a life sentence, but denies that his actions in a concentration camp were intended to "destroy a substantial or significant part of the Bosnian Muslim people as a national, ethnic or religious group", as his genocide indictment states.

UN prosecutors will seek to convince a three-judge panel that he is guilty, introducing new evidence concerning murders of Muslims and Croats in the town of Brcko, northern Bosnia.

Jelenc, who in October reversed his pleas and admitted to 12 murders to "clean his soul", was arrested by US troops of the Stabilisation Force in January. While at large he claimed he was acting on the orders of Biljana Plavsic, until recently President of Republika Srpska and championed by the West as a reformist.



Goran Jelenc appears before the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague, where he was charged with genocide. He has confessed to 12 murders in 1992

C&G Investment Rates

Effective from 1 December 1998

Amount Invested	Interest Paid	Gross %	Net %
\$25,000 or more	Annually	6.50	5.20
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	6.40	5.12
\$25,000 or more	Monthly	6.31**	5.05
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	6.22**	4.98
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Monthly	6.12**	4.90
\$1,000 or more	Annually	7.00	6.50
\$5,000 or more	Monthly	6.78**	6.31**
\$100,000 or more	Annually	7.15	6.50
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Annually	6.90	6.25
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	6.80	6.20
\$1,000 - \$9,999	Annually	6.65	6.15
\$100,000 or more	Monthly	6.53**	6.31**
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Monthly	6.39**	6.08**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	6.25**	6.03**
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Monthly	6.09**	5.87**
\$25,000 or more	Annually	3.75	3.15
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	3.25	2.65
\$1,000 - \$9,999	Annually	2.05	1.50
\$25,000 or more	Monthly	3.69**	3.10**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	3.20**	2.82**
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Monthly	2.03**	1.49**

Closed accounts offering penalty-free switching

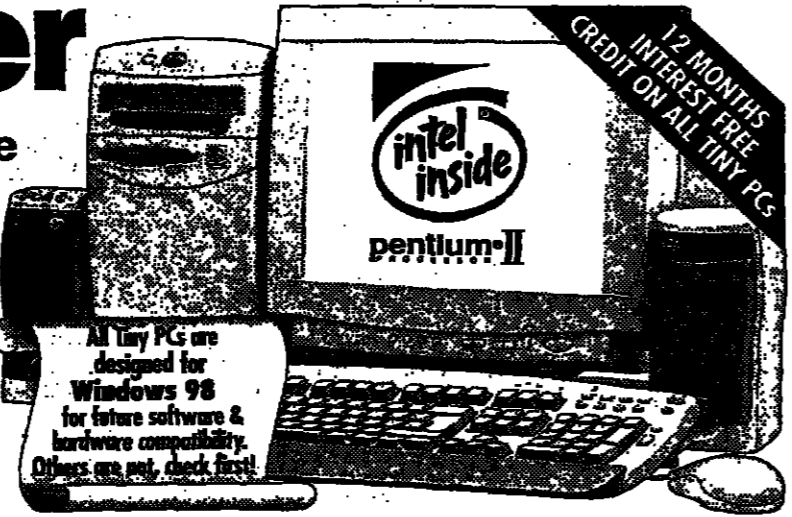
Amount	Interest Paid	Gross %	Net %
\$1,000 or more	Annually	7.10	6.50
\$5,000 or more	Monthly	6.88**	6.31**
\$100,000 or more	Annually	6.55	5.90
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Annually	6.40	5.65
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	5.90	5.15
\$1,000 or more	Monthly	6.36**	5.65**
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Monthly	6.22**	5.51**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	5.75**	5.03**
\$100,000 or more	Annually	6.25	5.50
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Annually	6.75	6.00
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	5.25	4.50
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Annually	4.90	4.15
\$100,000 or more	Monthly	6.08**	5.37**
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Monthly	5.80**	5.13**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	5.13**	4.41**
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Monthly	4.79**	4.07**
\$25,000 or more	Annually	6.25	5.65
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	5.75	5.15
\$25,000 or more	Monthly	6.08**	5.51**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	5.60**	5.03**
\$25,000 or more	Annually	5.75	5.00
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Annually	5.25	4.50
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Annually	4.90	4.15
\$100,000 or more	Monthly	6.08**	5.37**
\$25,000 - \$99,999	Monthly	5.80**	5.13**
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Monthly	5.13**	4.41**
\$5,000 - \$9,999	Monthly	4.79**	4.07**
\$25,000 or more	Half-yearly	3.75	3.15
\$10,000 - \$24,999	Half-yearly	3.25	2.65
\$1,000 - \$9,999	Half-yearly	2.05	1.50
\$100 or more	Annually	4.50	4.30
Monthly	4.40	3.80	



Cheltenham & Gloucester plc, Reserve Way, Gloucester GL4 4BL. The interest rates shown are variable and we may change them at any time. If we do, we will tell you using at least one of the ways set out in the account conditions. Rate changes can affect the account's relative competitiveness and we do not promise the rates above will be better than those of other banks. **We can pay monthly gross to non-savings but we will not do so for tax purposes, subject to the required conditions. Otherwise income tax is deducted at the lower rate, not the 20%. Net rates are illustrative and assume monthly or the lower rate of 20%. *The gross monthly rate, when compounded, equal the gross annual rate shown.

Latest DVD PC with colour printer and free scanner

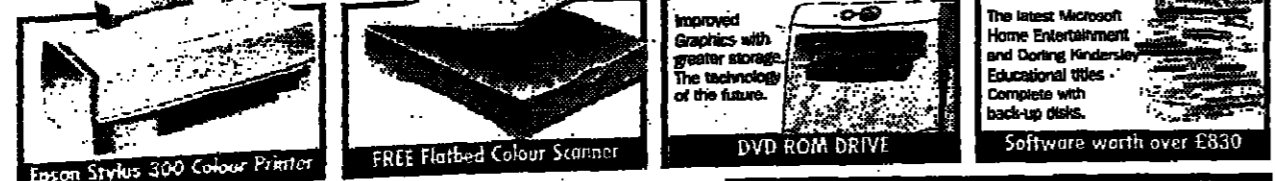
Pay nothing for a whole year. Offer extended by popular demand.



What a package! The superb graphics quality and outstanding storage capacity of DVD. A brilliant Epson printer. Genuine top quality Microsoft software worth £830. Plus a free colour scanner. And you don't need to pay a penny for 12 months (see details below). How do we do it? Simple. By making and selling direct, we give you the latest technology at unbeatable prices. See this great value PC, and other systems from just £599, at your nearest Tiny showroom. But make it quick. An offer like this can't last long.

- Super Power 350 Plus System with Intel Pentium II Processor 350MHz
- 512K CPU Cache
- 64MB Fast SD RAM 100MHz
- 6.4GB Ultra DMA IDE Hard Disk Drive
- 15" SVGA Colour Monitor
- 8MB AGP 3D Accelerated Graphics Card
- DVD ROM Drive (compatible with CD)
- Creative Labs Soundblaster
- 64 Wavetable Integrated Sound plus Tiny CFSO Stereo Speakers
- Joystick
- Voice Fax/Modem v.90 56Kbps
- Epson Stylus 300 Colour Printer
- FREE Flatbed Colour Scanner
- FREE Trial BT LineOne Internet Access
- Windows 98
- Over £830 of Microsoft & Other Software

£999
£1173



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR A FREE BROCHURE, FREEPHONE 0800 731 9372

TINY

THE BEST THINGS THIS CHRISTMAS COME IN TINY PACKAGES

85 SHOWROOMS NATIONWIDE OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

BERKSHIRE	BIRMINGHAM	BURTON	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON
BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	BIRMINGHAM	GLoucester	LONDON W.C.	SOUTHAMPTON

NOTHING TO PAY FOR 12 MONTHS - NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT 26.99%

THE CRISIS OF GLOBAL CAPITALISM

How the system can be saved

In every financial crisis, there is some soul-searching, but the scope of the current public debate is far too narrow.

CAPITALISM IN CRISIS

In the second extract from his book, The Crisis of Global Capitalism, the financier puts forward the measures needed to save us from a crisis of global proportions

PART TWO

We need to broaden the debate. It is time to recognise that financial markets are inherently unstable.

To put it bluntly, the choice confronting us is whether we will regulate global financial markets internationally or leave it to each individual state to protect its own interests as best it can.

Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin, spoke about the need to establish a fund that would enable periphery countries that are following sound economic policies to regain access to the international capital markets.

They mentioned a figure of \$150 billion (£85 billion). Although their proposal did not receive much support at the annual meeting of the IMF in October, I believe it is exactly what is needed.

At present, European central bankers are adamantly opposed to such a scheme because of its inflationary implications.

Liquidity must be pumped urgently to poorer nations

The "new architecture" everybody is talking about.

CURRENCY REGIMES Whatever currency regime prevails, it's bound to be flawed. Fluctuating currency rates are inherently unstable because of trend-following speculation; moreover, the instability is cumulative because trend-following speculation tends to grow in importance over time.



Financial markets are inherently unstable. Imposing market discipline means imposing instability, and how much instability can society take?

So what is to be done? Keeping exchange rates flexible would be the safest, but it would make it difficult for the periphery countries to attract capital.

Should a member country devalue, it must make up the deficiency it creates in the basket that makes up the currency unit. The two major currencies could be linked together in some such fashion.

most unlimited swap agreements in which each side would guarantee the other against a change in the rate of exchange.

CAPITAL CONTROLS Having open capital markets is highly desirable not only for economic, but also for political reasons.

With the introduction of the euro, there will be three main currency blocks. Japan faces special problems and the yen is in a state of dynamic disequilibrium so it may be set aside for the moment.

only for economic, but also for political reasons. Capital controls are an invitation for evasion, corruption, and the abuse of power.

Unfortunately international financial markets are unstable. Keeping domestic financial markets totally exposed to the vagaries of international financial markets could cause greater instability than a country dependent on foreign capital can endure.

A credit-guarantee scheme could help to accomplish that goal. It is imperative that countries on the periphery be encouraged not simply to turn their backs on the global system in the Malaysian manner.

There are no permanent and comprehensive solutions. One thing is certain: financial markets are inherently unstable; they need supervision and regulation.

ble to curb speculation without incurring all the harmful side-effects of capital controls.

There are no permanent and comprehensive solutions. One thing is certain: financial markets are inherently unstable; they need supervision and regulation.

leisure bonus. Let Posthouse treat you this winter. 3 nights for the price of 2. Includes a list of hotels and prices across various regions like London, South of England, and Country Regions.

TOMORROW Market values versus social values: protecting free societies from collapse. Includes a small image of a person and text about market values.

Our Fastest 3D Home PC with FREE Printer and Scanner! Limited Offer. £1098. Includes details about the 366-2 3D Multimedia PC System, free printer, free scanner, and other software.

Between the stools at the Turner

Michael Gove laments the anal obsession of contemporary art

On the way out of the Turner Prize Exhibition at the Tate Gallery there is a locked door marked "stools cupboard". It probably holds a few backless seats for weary attendants or guests at lectures. But after spending an hour inspecting the exhibits of those artists shortlisted for the prize, which is awarded tonight, I would not have been surprised if the cupboard stored a different sort of stool collection. It would have been entirely in keeping.

That is not a value judgment, let alone a desire to shock, merely a factual reflection of the material on display.

One of the shortlisted artists, Chris Ofili, has festooned his pictures with elephant dung and the canvases themselves rest on drying elephant stools. Mr Ofili's fascination with waste matter is not restricted to its deployment as decoration, but also to its invocation in heroic terms. One of his works, with an explicit biblical reference, is entitled *The Adoration of Captain Shit and the Legend of the Black Stars*. Mr Ofili's interest in the excremental is far from being an idiosyncratic tic. It seems to be a recurring motif in modern art.

Interest in excrement seems to be a recurring motif

Gilbert and George, who won the prize in 1986, devoted their 1995 exhibition to giant photographs of their own motions. A 1994 photopiece stool on top of another to create a crucifix.

Gilbert and George were themselves part of what the writer Louisa Buck calls a "time-honoured tradition of ordure in art". Her *Moving Targets: A User's Guide to Modern Art* has been published by the Tate to help the public appreciate the context in which the Turner Prize jury operates. The title itself, *Moving Targets*, may perhaps be a knowing reference to the expelled motions which entrance contemporary artists. Ms Buck records that the Italian Piero Manzoni, who was exhibiting at the Serpentine Gallery earlier this year, canned and sold his own excrement and the American Mike Kelley "has made drawings of huge beribboned turds". All were, of course, working in the dark shadow of the European master Joseph Beuys, who blazed a coprophilic trail when his first smeared faeces on his own work.

If only, Gerry Adams must be thinking, he had read Ms Buck's work while in the Maze prison. Never mind his failure to get a share of the Nobel Peace Prize, the IRA's dirty protest could have been in the running for the Turner. Perhaps even now he could be mounting a retrospective with Jimmy Boyle, another excrement-smeared ex-convict, who turned the chamber pot to an imaginative use which eluded even Marcel Duchamp.

It was M Duchamp who pioneered the trend towards "conceptual art" which informs so much of today's

artistic practice when he displayed a urinal in a gallery in 1917. He sought to challenge notions of what was art by offering his "Fountain" as an exhibit for the Society of Independent Artists in New York and the notion of the readymade, an object from the outside world proposed as art, was born. Sued for the nature of artistic evolution this century that the readymade has now become not the sewer, but the sewage.

It is a commonplace of reactionaries when confronted with modern art to declare that "a child could have done it". But no child could have done as Beuys, Ofili, Gilbert and George have done. As Sigmund Freud has pointed out, the anal stage of human development when individuals generally play with faecal matter passes early in their infancy. By the time we become children, rather than babies, we are more civilised than that.

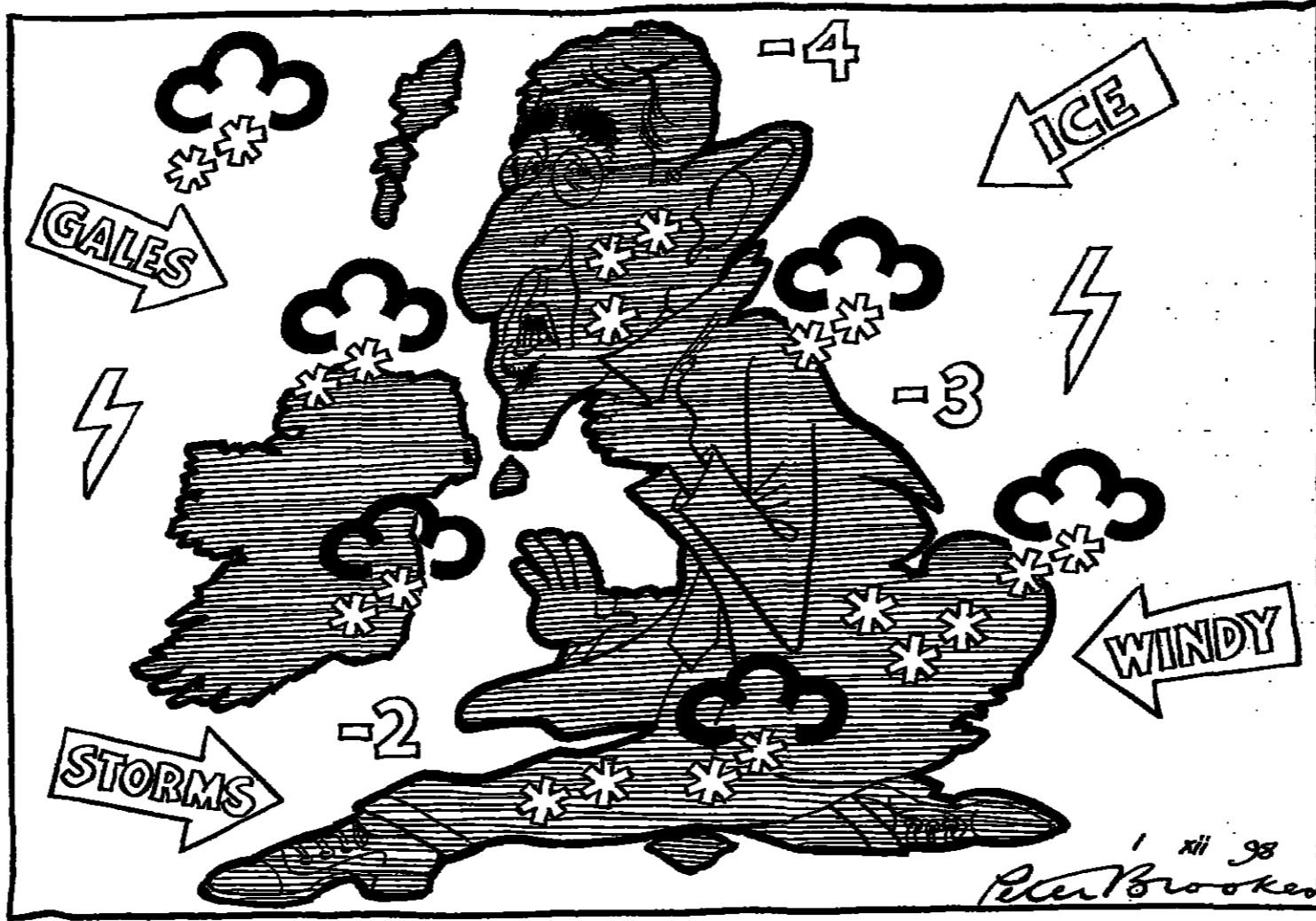
When the Turner Prize exhibition is not anal, it is banal. There is little that is either elevating or intellectually powerful in the show. Two of those shortlisted, Tacita Dean and Sam Taylor-Wood, are scarcely artists at all, but simply rather limited camera operators.

They use film in so stilted a manner that they make Charlie Chaplin look cutting edge. They qualify for inclusion, however, by their embrace of modern media even though their fixed and narrow deployment of its resources is truly reactionary. Those artists who prefer to work in more traditional media now have to command attention, like Marcel Duchamp before them, with toilet gimmickry.

Chris Ofili uses paint with a degree of technical virtuosity but it is the dung that gets him noticed. His rival, Cathy de Monchaux, displays considerable skill as a sculptor. But while Mr Ofili uses one orifice to shock, Ms de Monchaux uses another. Her structures pointedly recall female genitalia in a manner which only encourages ennuui.

The novelist Anthony Burgess's most famous fictional character, Mr Enderby, was a writer whose muse would only inspire him when he was on the lavatory. It now seems that Mr Enderby's affliction has become an epidemic.

There is, to paraphrase Louisa Buck, another "time-honoured tradition" of ordure in art. Generations of writers have used it as a metaphor for the capacity of money to corrupt and demean higher values. From Alexander Pope in *The Dunciad* to Charles Dickens in *Our Mutual Friend*, the pursuit of brass has led men to muck. The commercialisation of creativity, celebrated by the Culture Secretary Chris Smith in his defence of the export-earning potential of contemporary art, and embodied by the celebrity showmanship of the Turner Prize, has taken us all on a wrong turning. We are trapped in a cupboard of stools.



OUTLOOK CHILE

The ho, ho zone layer

Never mind the body zone. We all know bodies: they are boringly familiar, we live in them, and never a night passes on television without some eager-beaver inviting us on a voyage of discovery up his nostril, or a camera crew stalking a waddle of nudists. By the time the Millennium Dome opens, we shall be sick of the sight of bodies, even giant ones with two torsos and a walk-through elbow.

The mind zone might be worth a frown, although I have to say that I favoured the late Ted Hughes's idea that we should make the entire Dome into a replica human brain. It already looks like the top inch of a very large bald-headed man who has inadvertently sunk into a Thameside bog, his few thin hairs standing on end in alarm.

Then there is the circus zone exploring human history by trapeze, sponsored computers posing as the classroom of the future, a virtual causers display and a financial "transaction zone" which so far is shrouded in Baringesque mystery, although not quite so deep a mystery as the Tent of Spiritual Holiness and Transcendental Rows about the Trade Secretary and the Hinduja's.

Then rest, global, environmental, transport, play zones; but the really, really worrying one is the Zone of National Identity.

In Britain's fragmenting culture, we are defined best by what makes us laugh

reported that its sales are down because we have become so un-British as to spurn boring, warm, decent, durable clothes for funky ones with designer labels and defective zips. This is only the latest in a series of blows to our national self-image. Recently it has been reported that we have more cats than dogs (which means we are defied and despised in our own homes, instead of gazed at with faithful adoration). Statistics also seem to show that all but the poorest of us drink more coffee than tea. Tea, which fuelled the calm philosophical attitude of the British from Jane Austen to the Blitz, is in retreat: we are reverting to the combative, emotional, insecure, ideologically squabbling coffee-house mood of Dr Johnson's time.

A Briton who starts the day with a nerve-jangling double espresso and a contemptuous flourish of a cat's bum is bound to develop a totally different sense of identity from his older compatriot who started it on tea, a bacon sandwich, and a flurry of wagged applause from a faithful dog.

If cats and cappuccino were not evidence of a new and nervier Britain, there are plenty of other indicators of personality change. We are living alone for longer, divorce at the drop of a hat, eschew British seaside holidays, drink cold beer from the bottle, fail to join a union, refuse to mend things, and avoid public transport. All the old symbols are drifting and dissolving in a nightmare pantomime of transformation scenes: Lord Chancellors shuck off their silk stockings, pensioners eschew the bowling-green for the Internet, rugby; heroes turn tabloid love-rats, and when did you last see a Patsy, from seditious penny ballads to *Private Eye*, clear and satisfying lines can be drawn: only our jokes make sense of us, and of each other, and of our history.

Comedians, being ipso facto insecure, tend to have the humility to acknowledge and work on their debt to the past. They rarely want to pull the past down and stamp on it, as architects and artists and writers often do. Yet what is this? From within the former heart of national identity, the Controller of BBC 1, Peter Salmon, has spoken. Sitcom must change! "I am the net-curtain comedy killer," he said. "The man who took out a contract on suburban sofas and knitted pullovers." With which weak, unfunny joke he condemned to oblivion a national tradition of strong and funny ones: in his merry modernising youthfulness he flung aside the long comedy of domestic claustrophobia which stretches from Chaucer's gossips to Miss Bates's monologues in *Emma*, down via Hancock's Sunday afternoon *Ever Decreasing Circles* and Harry Enfield's *Kevin the Teenager* and the battle against boredom of the *Men Behaving Badly*. He also, interestingly, ignored the fact that the most popular imports, *Friends* and the *Simpsons*, rely very heavily indeed on sofas.

So perhaps it is no longer safe even to fill the National Identity Zone with comedy, though it unites us better than anything else. The only other route I can suggest is to make it a library, with comfy chairs and total silence and carefully chosen books, three from every year of our nationhood. This year's three, for my money, would be Ted Hughes's *Birthday Letters*, especially the one about Sylvia not understanding his murky, bloodstained view of the countryside; Pete Goss's modest and heroic account of his Vendée Globe rescue; and Raymond Briggs's sublimely touching cartoon biography of his parents, who just got on with their lives from 1900 to 1970, starting in sensible amazement at the social and political changes around them.

Yes: insouciant heroes holding on to ancient values in high-tech boats, craggy gamekeepers, dead poets, and grumpy milkmen married to women who wish they wouldn't be rude about Mr Churchill—that's national identity for you. Actually, I have suddenly thought of a really good benchmark for things to put in the National Identity Zone. Almost anything will do as long as Mr Mandelson and Demos and Damien Hirst and the Controller of BBC 1 all deeply, instinctively hate it.

Libby Purves

architect. He ventured that it was a pleasure to have her there considering the Prince of Wales had derided its looks. The Queen's (no doubt jokey) response? "He can be a bit foolish sometimes."

Old swinger

SWINGING the mace was a big mistake, confesses Michael Heseltine in his long-awaited memoirs. The notorious incident in 1975, during which Hezza lost control and earned himself the sobriquet "Tarzan" was all the fault of a colleague.

Infuriated by Labour sharp practice, the aspiring industry spokesman reached for the symbol of parliamentary democracy but An-nabel Heseltine, who has read the passage in her father's book, says what happened next was unplanned: "My father didn't intend to wield the mace. He picked it up but didn't realise how light it was. It went above his head and James Prior went to restrain him. It was Prior holding his arm that gave the impression that my father was wielding the mace. Michael was so upset afterwards that he was unable to drive and my mother had to take him home."

THE BBC failed to report William Hague's "Lord Mandel-

son of Rio" remark last week after the rumpus of the Newsnight "outing". Then yesterday, after it was cleared at the highest level, the story was broadcast, belatedly. Why? "After it was covered elsewhere, it became a media story," says the BBC. Is this not the kind of hypocrisy for which broadcast types attack the broadsheet press?

Colour blind

DAVID BECKHAM (pictured) is innocent—so says the Argentinian who—writing forced the Spice Boy's election from the World Cup. Diego Simeone, the recipient of a gentle tap on the leg, can no longer live with the guilt. "In reality he didn't do anything," admits the Argie, a little belatedly, on BBC's *Where Were You?* Referer: Kim Nielsen defends his decision. "Kicking a player deserves a red card," Glenn Hodgie, who appears to believe England won the World Cup, is having none of it: "It was just a yellow card. It wasn't violent. I must say the emotion when it happened was: 'What have you done that for, David?'"

In the hunt

CONGRATULATIONS to Richard Burge, head of London Zoo.

STOWE's cricket team is off to Chile, oblivious to the Pinchock awkwardness. Good luck boys.

JASPER GERARD

When will we learn?

John Laughland on our fundamental rifts with Europe

The leaked suggestion yesterday that the Government is preparing to counter European tax harmonisation by making concessions fits a depressingly familiar pattern. It only proves that relations with the EU are irrevocably locked into a futile cycle of defiance followed by confrontation and then appeasement. When will we learn? However hard British governments try, after every new beginning, good relations with Europe last for at most two years before disillusion once again sets in.

After the announcement of the harmonisation plan reached by French and German Finance Ministers, Tony Blair should have realised that his attempt to influence Europe in a British direction had, like all previous attempts, failed. After all, he had categorically stated in January that tax harmonisation was not on the cards.

Mr Blair began his administration by signing up to the social chapter, and almost certainly promising to the Europeans in private that Britain would join EMU. This, he hoped, would signal a new dawn with relations with the Continent and enable him to evangelise the EU away from over-regulation. He also wanted to create a new British-Franco-German axis.

Instead, European policy continues to be decided by Paris and Bonn, while the re-emergence of old Left government in France, Italy and Germany has thrust new Labour out onto the margins, economically speaking, of European politics.

Britain is now trying to square the circle by negotiating on the fine text of the tax harmonisation proposal, in the name of achieving things such as closing tax loopholes. It believes that outright opposition to any form of centralised control over tax will simply sideline Britain. Yet history shows that this tactic is doomed: both John Major and Margaret Thatcher also signed up to European commitments in pursuit of other British goals, only to find that the chimera of influence recedes as fast as you approach it.

Like Tony Blair, John Major began his administration with demonstrative concessions to pro-Europeanism. He had been the architect of Britain's signing up to the ERM only months before he became Prime Minister, in the process placing control of his economic policy in the hands of the Bundesbank. But the false bonhomie of his "heart of Europe" relations with Helmut Kohl lasted just 22 months, until the ejection of the pound from the ERM led to a bitter exchange of mutual recrimination between the Treasury and Frankfurt.

Mrs Thatcher practised her own detente towards Europe. She enthusiastically signed up to the Single European Act in 1986. But this thaw in relations lasted just 18 months, until April 1989, when the Delors report on monetary union was published. Her famous Bruges speech followed in September.

The key to the recidivism of successive British Governments lies in their failure to understand the logic of European integration. They cannot see that it is not law-based and thus that it can never be market-friendly. On the contrary, European integration is a political process designed to change the constitution of the member states, as the German Foreign Minister explicitly said last week.



Chilean democracy

Social services would otherwise... would have been on... of government... little voice in... children in care... addicts of the... wives in fact... why the Health... and the Charit... should be comp... money for this... services, and pro... for poor per... One of the sign... that the most... not left to fend... suffering from... do not, at least... as they might... removal of inter... set of risks be... Horrifying... homes have... years. Even... remain physical... from emotional... schooling. Most... have no educat... which makes... crime, prostitu... wonder such... inmates have... So the costs of... cost to society... community has... by the release... violent and un... focus on aid... the elderly has... being forced... care when, with... tion, they could... own homes, wh... The Government... establish national...

THE PIN

Chilean democracy... After an intense... Jose Miguel... Minister, travel... ask ministers... Augusto Pinochet... will soon be... have been any... now has ten... whether to allow... run their course... his case with... record of enforce... era, and his stand... Socialist Party... special credibility... not driven by a... realistic assessm... on Chilean democ... The threat that... but still substantial... forced departure... Spain is unlikely... massing outside... The military comm... asm for overha... order. But there... instability short... the new Army... Ricardo Izurieta... rule there are nu... ers who might... undertake a show... dare their super... Even without such... the army is still... for the politicians... military enjoys a... Senate, whose influ... constitution that... down for his suc... The armed forces... appointments within...

CELEBRATION

None do there embrace... Coloured coffins do not... said "you can't take it with... been thinking of the cost... Teesside firm. Underst... now offering coffins at... customer's choice, of... As we report, the... exhibiting in its wind... colours of the Middle... confused mess of red and... colours will offend... United. But they are a... the funeral sub-fuse and... British mortuary etiqu... Until Victorian pract... death as well as sex... funeral furniture was as... of other cultures. Catal... were magnificent with brilliant... honours. Marble, bronze... and cathedrals. Church... minders of medieval life as... But the Puritans put a stop... in the face of death as well... In other societies, death... most vivid work of its art... Egyptian sarcophagi were... inside them, while the mummy... colours. Romans who were... had their coffins made...

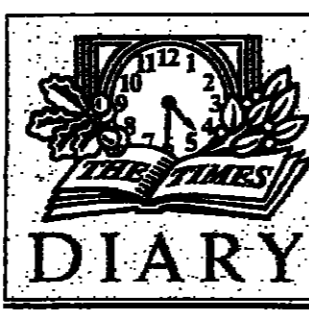
Now, girls

THE young pup who invented Cool Britannia has stumbled into legal difficulties with the ancient universities. Mark Leonard, the 24-year-old Demos pointy-head, (right) has landed the *New Statesman* with a writ after penning a personal attack on a respected Cambridge Fellow in the Left-winging organ. In a bitter swipe at Oxbridge elitism, Leonard claimed that Dr John Casey, the delicately spoken English lecturer at Gonville and Caius, had been reluctant to admit female students. "It is demonstrably false, an absurd claim, probably based on student gossip," says Casey, issuing a writ demanding an apology. "I have proof of my friendly behaviour towards women."

Curiously, Leonard is a beneficiary of the vile Oxbridge system, courtesy of Caius. Not a memorable student, recalls Casey: "I once had a conversation on a staircase with him. He got a 2:2 and even now his article lacked style."

The *Statesman*, poor thing, pleaded poverty. Then the witty Casey mentioned Geoffrey Robinson, the mag's ministerial millionaire. If it goes to court, Casey will call on his offshore bounce.

"We are preparing our defence and Leonard will write again this week," says its Editor, Peter Wilby. There appears to be some local confusion. The delightful Cristina Odono (left) has asked Casey for an article on the Papal Encyclical.



hereditary peers. Despite their royal status, Princes Philip and Andrew did not inherit their titles. Unlike the Dukes of Gloucester and Kent, Edinburgh and York are "hereditary peers of first creation"; theoretically they received their titles for achievement. In Prince Philip's case, this was in recognition of his marriage to the Queen. "Once you start applying tests of worthiness as to why people are made peers, you are in wide open country," says a senior courtier. "People might, for example, start asking why Baroness Jay is in the Lords. What qualifies her other than being a PM's daughter?"



A PLAQUE to Catholic martyrs hung on the Tyburn tree is to be unveiled by Hugh Thompson, the Chief Yeoman Warder of the Tower of London—whose predecessors sent the martyrs to their deaths.

Jobsworths SUPPORTERS of the Dukes of Edinburgh and York are unhappy that they have been caught up in Tony Blair's plans to abolish the

THE QUEEN does not seem to share her son's austere view of modern architecture. While opening the minimalist River and Rowing Museum, Henley, she was guided by David Chipperfield, its



CHECKS ON CARE

A new attempt to tackle failure and abuse

Social services, designed to help those who would otherwise be neglected, have themselves been one of the most neglected areas of government. Those they look after have little voice in society, whether they be children in care, the elderly and frail, drug addicts or the mentally ill. There are few votes in tackling social services — which is why the Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, and the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, should be congratulated for finding more money for this area in return for better services, and proposing harsher penalties for poor performance.

One of the signs of a civilised society is that the most vulnerable of its members are not left to fend for themselves. Children suffering from violence or abuse in Britain, do not, at least, have to live on the streets, as they might in South America, but their removal into care can simply substitute one set of risks for another.

Horrifying tales of abuse in children's homes have emerged over the past few years. Even those children in care who remain physically unscathed tend to suffer from emotional deprivation and poor schooling. Most teenagers leaving care have no educational qualifications at all: which makes them ripe for careers in crime, prostitution and drug addiction. No wonder such a high proportion of prison inmates have been in care.

So the costs of poor social services are a cost to society too. The failure of care in the community has been made all too apparent by the release into normal life of some violent and unstable people who have gone on to injure or kill others. And the lack of focus on aiding independent living among the elderly has led to too many old people being forced into hospitals or residential care when, with a little help and imagination, they could be enabled to stay in their own homes, which most would prefer.

The Government will now, at last, establish national minimum standards of

performance and will publish annual reports showing whether councils have succeeded or failed in meeting them. It will also set out exactly what services people have a right to expect, thus helping to improve consistency in what is now a wildly uneven area of provision.

In another experiment in "joined-up Government", it will try to improve the co-ordination of different departments, such as health and social services, in the supply of care. Horizontal links are always harder to maintain than vertical ones, but most inquiries into the failures of social services have highlighted the gaps between providers into which vulnerable people have fallen.

Most promising are the inspection regimes that Mr Dobson proposes. The new Commissions for Care Standards will be independent of local authorities, vital given the collusion between council departments and homes that has often been exposed in cases of abuse. And also, critically, inspectors will be able to arrive unannounced. If the institutions are badly enough run, the Secretary of State will send in a "hit squad" to sort them out.

This formula of transparency (through publishing performance tables), inspection and hit squads was pioneered by the Conservatives in the field of education. Now Labour is proposing it also in health, local councils and social services.

Most poorly-performing employees, and their institutions, respond best to fear. In the private sector, it is fear of losing the customer to a rival or fear of losing one's job. In the public sector, it is becoming fear of embarrassment and fear of inspection. Unlike the citizen's charter, which was John Major's preferred means of improving public services, this one substitutes the weak voice of the consumer with the strong arm of central government. In an area where the weak need protecting, such tough regulation is badly needed.

THE PINOCHET EFFECT

Chilean democracy faces a subtle but substantial threat

After an intensive set of talks in London, Jose Miguel Insulza, Chile's Foreign Minister, travelled to Spain yesterday to ask ministers there to facilitate General Augusto Pinochet's return to his country. It will soon become clear whether his efforts have had any effect on Jack Straw, who now has ten days in which to decide whether to allow extradition hearings to run their course. Señor Insulza has made his case with charm and dignity. His own record of enforced exile during the Pinochet era, and his standing as a leader of Chile's Socialist Party, allow him to speak with special credibility. His words, though, are not driven by a charitable spirit alone but a realistic assessment of the Pinochet effect on Chilean democracy.

The threat that now faces Chile is subtle but still substantial. The General's enforced departure from this country to Spain is unlikely to lead straight to tanks massing outside the presidential palace. The military command has little enthusiasm for overthrowing the established order. But there is a real chance of instability short of insurrection. Although the new Army Commander, General Ricardo Izurieta, is committed to civilian rule, there are numerous individual officers who might use their troops to undertake a show of strength and then dare their superiors to impose sanctions.

Even without such an overt challenge, the army is still in a position to make life for the politicians extremely difficult. The military enjoys a reserved set of seats in the Senate, whose influence over the 1980 constitution that General Pinochet set down for his successors is considerable. The armed forces can, in effect, control appointments within their ranks and they

have an index-linked budget. A slow process had begun, unofficially suspended in the past six weeks, of ceding some accountability over these unsatisfactory arrangements.

The men in uniform, however, may not be the most potent threat to democracy. The General's fate has divided the current centre-left Government in Chile but it has had a much more dangerous impact on the centre-right Opposition. Chile's conservatives have never had much enthusiasm for parliamentary procedure but had started to reconcile themselves to recent developments. That process is crucial to the creation of a proper pluralist democracy.

It is not inevitable. The Chilean Right is divided between two nominally allied but very distinct political parties. One, the National Renewal Party, happily embraces democracy. It faces intense competition from the Independent Democratic Union (IDU), whose stand on economic and social issues has strong echoes of the Pinochet era. This second force has wrapped itself in the General's cause and forced the National Renewal Party in the same direction. A process of political convergence is showing every sign of reverting to polarisation. Chile now faces a divisive presidential election next year between socialist and nationalist contenders.

Most serious commentators in Santiago concede that the General's arrest has already triggered Chile's most serious crisis this decade. The fate of democratisation, if not necessarily democracy itself, has become disturbingly uncertain. That is the message that President Frei and now Señor Insulza have taken to the British Government. There is no reason to believe that they are bluffing.

CELEBRATION OF DEATH

None do there embrace, but there can be colour in the grave

Coloured coffins do not come cheap, in any sense of the adjective. The man who first said "you can't take it with you" must have been thinking of the cost of funerals. The Teesside firm, Undertaking with Love, is now offering coffins in the colour of the customer's choice, or that of his representatives. As we report, this funeral studio is exhibiting in its window a casket in the colours of the Middlesbrough strip, a confused mess of red and white. These colours will offend fans of Newcastle United. But they are a cheerful relief from the funereal sub-fusc and brass of recent British mortuary etiquette.

Until Victorian prudishness shrouded death as well as sex in gloom, British funeral furniture was as colourful as that of other cultures. Catafalques of the great were magnificent with brilliant crests and honours. Marble, bronze and painted tombs are still glories of British churches and cathedrals. Church brasses are reminders of medieval life as well as death. But the Puritans put a stop to cheerfulness in the face of death as well as life.

In other societies, death brings out the most vivid work of its artists and architects. Egyptian sarcophagi were covered with hieroglyphs, while the mummy chests inside them were painted in lifelike colours. Romans who were rich enough had their coffins made from a limestone

brought from Assus, in Asia Minor, which was commonly believed to "eat" the body. On the outside their coffins were decorated with triumphal sculptures and bas-reliefs. Almost the only relics left by the Etruscans are their funerary urns, painted with women and men sharing a feast and grinning their archaic smiles.

And the last resting places for their coffins were as colourful as their contents. Only the high and mighty could die for a pyramid, a ziggurat, the Taj Mahal, Silbury Hill or the Mausoleum of Halicarnassus. But Celtic long barrows were fine and public places. In Mexico, and other uninhabited Latin countries, families picnic on their graves on the Day of the Dead, and celebrate the memories of their loved ones. It was an English poet who wrote, "Man is a noble animal, splendid in ashes, and pompous in the grave." But since Thomas Browne, funerals have been standardised and frozen by "good" taste and the gloomy mortuary monopoly.

So anything that unfreezes the English way of death from its gloom is welcome. The Middlesbrough away strip of sky blue and white would be a more uplifting colour for a coffin than infernal scarlet. But whatever colours the coffin, it is not going to come any cheaper. For the only purchase in the world that the customer does not haggle over is a coffin, whatever its colour.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Expediency and principle at odds over Pinochet

From Mr J. B. H. Byfield

Sir, Today's letters on the Home Secretary's dilemma over General Pinochet are almost uniformly supportive of the basest features of pragmatism and expediency. The most suspect of mitigating excuses are presented on the grounds of healing wounds, sanctity of national sovereignty, it's none of our business, etc.

On this argument, what were we doing being involved in two world wars? The whole basis of international extradition law would be undermined if the Home Secretary was swayed by the words, for example, of the spokesman for the British-Chilean Chamber of Commerce. Some crimes are so heinous that nothing should stand in the way of justice.

Let us remember the words of Lord Justice Mansfield at the trial of John Wilkes two centuries ago: "The constitution does not allow reasons of State to influence our judgements. God forbid it should! We must not regard political consequences, however formidable soever they might be if rebellion was the certain consequence we are bound to say 'fiat justitia ruat cælum' (Let justice be done though the heavens should fall).

Yours faithfully,
J. B. H. BYFIELD,
2 Willow Farm, Yetminster,
Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6NH,
November 27.

From Sir Reginald Seconde

Sir, Now that the law lords have pronounced on the immunity aspects of the Pinochet case, there is a danger that it will turn on over-simplified issues such as "seeing justice done". In foreign policy, the ethical path is not always so easy to distinguish and, even when it is, other weighty issues often cut across it.

I was appointed British Ambassador in Chile in April 1973 and continued to serve there, after the September takeover by the military, until 1976. I knew both President Allende and General Pinochet. Allende tried to bring in a Marxist regime by parliamentary methods, a danger to all in those Cold War days.

He operated by manipulating the constitution and brought the country to anarchy and ruin.

When the Chilean Armed Forces eventually moved against him, they did so ruthlessly and installed a regime which, though it restored stability and eventually the economy, was for too long accompanied by extreme brutality. It was a classic case of tyranny following anarchy.

In December 1975, my embassy managed with difficulty to secure the release of a British subject, Sheila Cassidy, who had been tortured. Immediately after that, I was withdrawn and there was no British Ambassador to Chile until 1980. Since then, reinforced by the peaceful handover of power to the politicians, diplomatic relations between the two countries have remained undisturbed and cordial.

I hope that the Government's decision on General Pinochet will be taken in the round, and not just in response to the feelings of those people and their families who suffered in the past, dreadful as their sufferings were. Chile has been our traditional friend since the early 19th century when we fought for her independence; a vigorous British community has always lived and worked there; Chile was helpful when we were in trouble over the Falklands. And what about British trade and traders? Can we dismiss the appeals of the present friendly Government — and should we ignore the disturbing effect which this bizarre arrest is having on the stability of the country's new and carefully contrived constitution?

Now is the time for looking constructively to the future: not for renewing tensions of the past. I hope that, in reaching its decision, the Government will give due weight to foreign policy considerations: I believe that these call for the immediate return of this elderly general to Chile.

I am, etc.
REGINALD SECONDE,
Gosfield Hall,
Halstead, Essex CO9 1SF,
November 27.

From Mr Jesus B. Ochou

Sir, As a retired lawyer, I applaud the decision recently handed down by your law lords in the Pinochet matter.

It has ever been the genius of the common law to allow for measured accommodation to societal needs. Lord Steyn's closely reasoned opinion (report, November 26) teaches us that English statute law, taken together with the law of nations as the latter has developed since the Second World War, is also capable of meeting the exigencies of the modern world.

It would be a pity, indeed, were Mr Jack Straw to overrule the decision. This is and should continue to be a matter of law and not politics.

Truly yours,
JESUS B. OCHOA,
7400 Franklin Drive,
El Paso,
Texas 79915,
viejoles@netscape.net
November 27.

From Mr Jon Holbrook

Sir, The charge of committing "crimes against humanity" could be levelled at a great many, past and present, government members around the world. But in practice only a handful are likely to be so charged.

Arbitrariness is the enemy of justice. But the impending extradition of General Pinochet is not merely arbitrary: it would not have happened had this former ally of the West still been a person of influence. Leaders of more powerful nations will not be caught in the wake of the Pinochet judgment.

The law will only be used by powerful countries to prosecute those of less powerful ones whom the West does not need to patronise. The law lords have given a green light to Western leaders to choose how an arbitrary law should be applied.

Yours sincerely,
JON HOLBROOK,
Freedom & Law,
c/o Worldwrit Centre,
14 Theobalds Road, WC1X 8PF,
November 27.

Westward bound to see the eclipse

From Mr Brian H. Parker

Sir, Your leading article, "Follow the soaraway sun" (November 26), reminds us that rather more can be learnt from records of ancient eclipses than facts of history.

Following the decipherment of cuneiform in the middle of the last century, the inscription on a clay tablet was found to refer to a total eclipse of the Sun at Larissa, where the Little Zab flows into the Great Zab. At the time of the eclipse, 556BC, the town was occupied by the Medes but being besieged by the Persians who, it appears, took advantage of the sudden darkness to take the town.

When this new discovery came to the notice of the Astronomer Royal, he made calculations and concluded that a total eclipse did indeed occur at the latitude of Larissa in the year in question, but after dark at Larissa itself.

The discrepancy was eventually found to be the increasing length of the day as the Earth's rotation is slowed by the Moon through tidal friction. The sum of this infinitesimal change, day on day, added up to some six hours, enough to place Larissa back under the eclipsing Sun.

For those relieved to learn that their instinctive feeling that each day of their lives seems longer than the previous day is supported by astronomical calculation, the actual lengthening is all of one twenty millionth of a second.

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN PARKER
(Oceanography lecturer,
Britannia Royal Naval College,
Dartmouth, 1972-96).
Rook House, Victoria Road,
Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 9HD.
brian.parker@virgin.net
November 27.

From Mr Henry Wickens

Sir, While delighted that Cornwall's economy will be boosted next year by the total eclipse traffic, I am perplexed at your "Fog-in-Channell-Continent-cut-off" attitude to this event.

The eclipse will be visible from a wide swath of France, Luxembourg and Germany, which, from many places in Britain, will be easier of access than Cornwall on a day when most of Britain's population will be heading southwest. The continental eclipse viewing areas also have the advantage that more than one major road leads to them.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY WICKENS,
14 Kalkewee,
L-7681 Waldbillig,
Luxembourg,
November 26.

From Mr Ben Bradshaw,

MP for Exeter (Labour)

Sir, You don't have to go as far as Cornwall to see next year's eclipse of the Sun. The southern half of Devon will also experience the total eclipse. In Exeter, we'll get 98 per cent.

There is still accommodation available, but people should book early, come early and not expect to be able to move much on the day itself.

Yours faithfully,
BEN BRADSHAW,
House of Commons,
November 26.

Safe in Blair's hands?

From Mr Raymond Wallis

Sir, Your Diary's report (November 26) on Tony Blair's simian line on both hands is intriguing.

Dr Charlotte Wolf, the psychiatrist who published works on psychological diagnosis of hands and gesture in the 1930s and 1940s, describes the hand with such an atavistic characteristic as one which must be classified as irregular (*The Human Hand*, Methuen, 1942).

She found that such hands were commonly possessed by those of subnormal intelligence but could also be found in the "gifted degenerate". She found it amongst painters, musicians, poets and scientists of world-wide reputation but noted that, while their intelligence surpassed the average, "the emotions of such people show a regression to the conditions proper to primitive man".

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND WALLIS,
14 Tenbury Road,
Clebury Monier,
Near Kidderminster,
Worcestershire DY14 8RB,
November 27.

Eat before reading

From Mr Stanley Armstrong

Sir, Having made some myself recently, I bought a package of tiramisù to see if Tesco's was as good as mine. Thinking that the ingredients might be on the bottom, I turned the package over to find, in small print and in six languages, the instruction: "Do not turn upside down."

I was a little upset, but fortunately the contents were not.

Yours faithfully,
STAN ARMSTRONG,
10 Regency Road,
Malvern Link,
Worcestershire WR14 1EB,
November 24.

Lords reform

From Mr R. D. Bloomfield

Sir, "Measured judgment in great matters", according to Lord Cranborne is what the public expects of the House of Lords (reports, November 25; letters, November 27). The high quality of discussion in the Lords has made it a democratic debating chamber whose greatness is without parallel anywhere in the world. Moreover it is not unknown for wise and well considered speeches to be made by hereditary peers. What they say is more important than how they vote.

Does this not suggest a solution to the present unhappy controversy which might prove acceptable on all sides? Let the right to vote be removed from the hereditary peers, but let their right to speak be retained. Conscientious peers who are anxious to contribute to the discussion of "great matters" would thus not be silenced.

Yours faithfully,
RAY BLOOMFIELD,
17 Watling Street, Leintwardine,
Craven Arms, Shropshire SY7 0LW,
November 25.

From Mr Chapman Pincher

Sir, In its deliberations to make the House of Lords more democratic the royal commission should seriously consider the abolition of the ancient titles lord and baroness for all its members, as these are so redolent of the feudal superiority which the Prime Minister claims to deplore.

Members could be denoted, as MPs are, by relevant initials after their names, such as MRC (Member of the Revising Chamber).

At a stroke, this would eliminate the "cronies" whose main interest is securing an aristocratic-sounding title providing social privileges and giving automatic access to directorships and other pecuniary benefits. The field would then be left open to citizens genuinely wishing to give full-time public service for modest reward.

Yours sincerely,
CHAPMAN PINCHER,
16 Church Street, Kintbury,
Hungerford, Berkshire RG17 9PR,
November 25.

A different light

From Mrs Margaret Blackburn

Sir, Your article on illuminating Westonbirt Arboretum with floodlights (*Weekend*, November 14) describes a most unconvincing attempt to turn these beautiful woodlands into an urban public park.

The lighting may mean that sight-seers are able to see the underside of the trees at night, but it is hardly the sort of thing Robert Holford can have envisaged when he laid out Westonbirt's grounds and the Silk Woods in the late 19th century.

It is hard to think of a more unnatural way of managing this collection of trees and shrubs, and I am sure it will terrorise the native animals and birds.

On aesthetic and environmental grounds this idea must be reconsidered.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET BLACKBURN,
66 Leighton Road, NWS 2QE,
November 21.

Politics in schools

From Mr Roy Amlot, QC

Sir, What are we coming to when a *Times* leader ("Freedom and fire") criticises Dulwich College, as it did today, for accommodating a British National Party speaker (report, November 24, later editions; letter, November 25).

We live in a society of extremes and a world of extreme politics. Students must learn quickly how to balance a whole spectrum of political attitudes. Outside school they are subjected to a bombardment of extreme views, some of which are now holding centre stage in world affairs.

Are you seriously suggesting that as schoolboys approach the age when they can vote they should be protected from some political views merely because they are so extreme? If that is so, what about extreme literature? What about extreme views in the media? And how are they to develop the essential of critical judgment if they are to be cocooned in the way you imply?

Yours faithfully,
ROY D. AMLOT,
(Governor, Dulwich College),
6 King's Bench Walk,
Temple, EC4Y 7DR,
November 25.

From Mr David Menton

and others

Sir, As student leaders, we have a duty and a responsibility to guarantee the safety of students on our campuses. If students want to involve themselves in the politics of the far Right they are fully capable of doing so without student societies encouraging the activities of these dangerous groups on campus.

When the BNP and other extremist groups target campuses, they incite

Dust to dust

From Mr Robert Vincent

Sir, Ruth Gledhill's report, "Funerals 'should not be dismal experience'" (*November 23*), highlights what I've noticed for some time. Being of an age when the death of so many friends and acquaintances requires regular attendances at such events, it has been suggested I have a season ticket to my local crematorium.

On such occasions one's ability to engage in rejoicing over the life of the departed is often inhibited by the relative age of the cleric conducting the service. Clergy in their twenties, describing in familiar terms the many highlights in the life of those in their eighties, lack credibility.

Why not a panel of crematoria clerics available who, with the approval of the family, could match the age of the deceased and thus speak with authority?

Although the death of centenarians could prove a staffing problem, young persons need not fear for their incomes: there are enough road and industrial accidents to keep them employed.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT VINCENT,
Dilly House, Wildhern,
Andover, Hampshire SP11 0JF,
November 23.

racial hatred and violence, and they attempt to use educational institutions in order to recruit members and intimidate students from minority communities.

The *Times* is correct that institutions of further and higher education should be the home of intellectual questioning and debate. However, no one should encourage participation from racial bigots and extremists.

Yours,
DAVID MENTON,
Union of Jewish Students,
BROOKS DUKE,
National Black Students Alliance,
BUSHRAH NASEEM,
Calamus Foundation,
ANDREW PAKES,
National Union of Students,
ANAND VYAS,
National Hindu Students Forum,
Union of Jewish Students of the
United Kingdom and Ireland,
Hillel House,
1-2 Endsleigh Street, WC1H 0DS,
November 26.

From Mr Alan G. Melville

Sir, May I suggest that publicity is exactly what the BNP needs? Their foul ideology should be held up and exposed to ridicule as often as possible. Dulwich College is to be congratulated for doing its pupils a great service.

The real tragedy is that such extremist views are only rarely dismissed in a coherent manner, leaving the field to extremists of the opposite persuasion, such as the Socialist Workers' Party, and enabling them to cloak their own radicalism in respectability.

I remain, etc.
ALAN G. MELVILLE,
20b Braid Avenue,
Edinburgh EH10 6EE,
96079371@esmail2.napier.ac.uk
November 25.

From Miss Clare Latimer

Sir, It often surprises and even shocks people when I say that one of our best businesses is catering for funerals. Yet surely most funeral "wakes" are celebrations of someone's life?

People come from all periods of the deceased's life and all swap stories of love, humour and warmth, heartening the family and leaving a happy memory of the day. Some people even serve champagne: I am very much in favour of this if the occasion is right — for example, if the person has lived a long and fulfilled life.

The food should be comforting and quite low key, so as not to distract people from the reason they are there. In a strange way, such occasions provide my most satisfying jobs. The client really needs you to guide them through the day — and it is good to feel needed.

Yours sincerely,
CLARE LATIMER,
Clare's Kitchen Ltd,
41 Chalcot Road,
Primrose Hill, NW1 8LS,
November 23.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Sally Watts on the assistance available for firms wishing to reach overseas clients

UK support for much more than fun in the sun

A RECORD-BREAKING programme of 327 overseas trade missions will be supported next year by the Department of Trade and Industry. There will be support for 467 groups of British companies in exhibiting at leading international trade fairs.

In addition, a new support programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with innovative products or services is planned to help them to enter the US market.

Export USA aims to equip owner-managers with the right skills, especially marketing.

Companies accepted on the programme will be offered a tailored marketing course targeting the US market, at a university business school; mentoring by a commercial officer based in America; assessment and advice; a visit to a relevant trade fair or conference in the US and help with publicity. Contact: 0171-215 5000.

In the face of uncertainty in world markets, Peter Mandelson, the Trade Secretary, hopes to encourage businesses to be more global in outlook, and to exploit every opportunity to trade with the rest of the world.

"The world economy may be turbulent," he says, "but this is no time to become isolated."



Tony Gunn, trade mission specialist.

We have to work harder to maintain our share of the world market."

Last month Mr Mandelson launched Connect Egypt, a three-year campaign to boost trade with Egypt. This includes an internet site, a Delta Road Show to visit six business centres there next spring, and a pilot project to stimulate partnerships between UK and Egyptian SMEs. A new Egyptian British Business Council will be inaugurated in December.

In January, 23 SMEs ranging from computer software to sports equipment will take part in a five-day trade mission to Turkey with Tony Gunn, export development counsellor for Shropshire Business Link.

who has organised the venture. This is part of the Government's campaign, Turkey: Positioned for Business, and is backed by an on-going support network consisting of UK and Turkish business advisory organisations.

Turkey, an emerging, under-exploited market, is the focus of the first Business Link Centre of Expertise, at Telford, Shropshire. Mr Gunn has worked with Links around the UK to deliver a support programme to participating companies, and Birmingham Business School is researching Anglo-Turkish SME relationships.

"The exchange rate is a perception that stops people moving into exports," says Mr Gunn. Contact: 0345 543210. Fun in the sun forms the theme of a three-year export campaign to help UK firms to benefit from the Gulf's burgeoning tourist and leisure industry, estimated to be worth £5 billion during the next five years.

"We are looking for manufacturers of everything from park benches to football stadiums," says David Chambers, international director of Birmingham Chamber of Commerce, which has launched the £1 million Gulf Leisure Experience with the DTI. Contact: Emma Hodgkinson, 01564 784999.



Nick Wright, left, and James Gilbert looked overseas when they found limits to the British market for their work

In the picture on exports

TWO young engineers who began in 1993 to export the computer graphics that they produce for television programmes now sell to more than 20 countries, and last year won the Queen's Award for Export Achievement. Overseas trade accounts for nearly 80 per cent of turnover and almost 70 per cent of profits.

James Gilbert, a Cambridge engineering graduate, and Nick Wright, who studied computer science and electronics at London University, started

Pixel Power in Cambridge in their twenties, in 1987. They decided against borrowing and overdraft facilities.

"We preferred to bootstrap our way up by doing consultancy work for other firms to build income and capital, so we never had debt," said Mr Gilbert. "Marketing and selling we learnt as we went along."

After a few years, finding the home market "fairly limited", they looked overseas — initially to France, their first export market, and then Scandi-

navia, as a result of contacts made at an Amsterdam trade show. Regular attendance at trade fairs — subsidised by the DTI's support scheme — is paying off as new markets open to them. First orders are arriving from the Middle East, after an exhibition last year in Bahrain, from South America, with a distributor appointed in Buenos Aires, and from Japan, where Pixel also has a distributor and will shortly attend a fair in Tokyo.

The company has managed to break into the American market, having attended Las Vegas trade fairs for several years. Three of their four sales staff are dedicated to export; employees have increased from one to 29. Current turnover is £4,500,000.

Mr Gilbert advises new exporters: "Do it gradually, step by step. Try to team up with someone over there selling similar, but not competing, products; this is more economical than investing in an office."

Pixel Power: 01223 721000.

Jonathan Gabay, course director at the Chartered Institute of Marketing, is the author of *Imaginative Marketing*, a new book published by Hodder & Stoughton, at £8.99.

The UK Enterprise Barometer, which measures the views of companies that the venture capital group has invested in, indicates that the fall in business confidence has levelled off since the last base rate cut.

A training programme for exhibition organisers on protecting exhibitors' designs is to be run by the Anti Copying in Design association, known as Acid. Inquiries: 0171-880 5742.

BRIEFINGS

Springfarm Architectural Mouldings, based in Antrim, Northern Ireland, is this year's winner of the Parcellforce Small Business Awards. The company was founded in 1990 and is owned by husband and wife Sam and Julieanne McCrea. Springfarm now employs 29 people and its turnover will reach £3.5 million this year. It moved to purpose-built premises in 1995, but expansion has forced it to build an extension. The Forest Bookshop, which runs a mail-order service for deaf people from the Forest of Dean, won the IT and export awards.

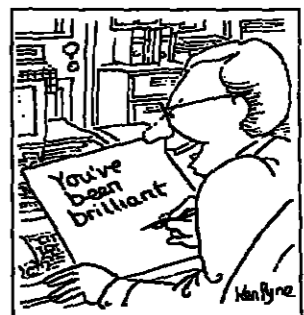
A new leaflet on tackling the millennium bug, *Taking Your Business Beyond 2000*, is issued by Lloyds TSB today.

Professor David Kirby, Dean of Middlesex University Business School, will use his inaugural lecture on Thursday to advise members of the North London business community on how to develop the skills required to become an entrepreneur. Ticket applications to Judith Abrahams on 0181-362 5829.

The UK Enterprise Barometer, which measures the views of companies that the venture capital group has invested in, indicates that the fall in business confidence has levelled off since the last base rate cut.

A training programme for exhibition organisers on protecting exhibitors' designs is to be run by the Anti Copying in Design association, known as Acid. Inquiries: 0171-880 5742.

A training programme for exhibition organisers on protecting exhibitors' designs is to be run by the Anti Copying in Design association, known as Acid. Inquiries: 0171-880 5742.



"That's the best thing about working for yourself — doing your own annual work assessment"

Help with tackling the international markets

HAND-HOLDING, funding and help with languages should encourage SME to start exporting or extend their overseas markets. For practical know-how, the Institute of Export runs one-day and two-day courses. Contact 0171-247 9822.

The current programme, continuing until June, includes starter subjects such as understanding the paperwork and management topics such as developing a strategy. Wide-ranging support is offered

to actual and potential exporters by the Department of Trade and Industry, including 80 export promoters (EPs) — experienced business people seconded to the DTI — who visit firms with information and advice, run preparatory seminars and organise trade missions. One EP recently took 11 fish and seafood companies to a Spanish trade fair. This followed groundwork with Humberside Business Link, the DTI's southern Europe team and commercial staff of the British embassy in Spain.

Another EP visited numerous UK manufacturers of automotive components, encouraging them to take part in the biennial international trade fair at Frankfurt. The EP persuaded 200 to take part. Export Explorer, another DTI programme, introduces new and inexperienced SMEs to European markets. This includes Market Explorer, covering accessible markets

in Western Europe, and Trade Fair Explorer, for international fairs. Both offer a supported visit. British Consulate backing and follow-up help and advice. The cost of each is £99 plus travel and accommodation. Contact 0171-215 5000. Support for Exhibitions and Seminars Abroad (Sesa) will make grants — for events taking place from next April — that reflect market conditions and form a fixed percentage of firms' costs. Additional support is

available for first-time exporters and those moving into emerging markets. Contact 0171-215 2400. According to Barbara Roche, Small Firms Minister, the UK contributes 17 per cent to EU funds that stimulate overseas business, yet our take-up is barely 1 per cent. These include Mediterranean Economic Development Area (Medea), Contact Richard Railwell, 0171-215 4450. The European Community Investment Partnerships (Ecip) supports joint

ventures between EU and Middle East companies. Contact Commonwealth Development Corporation, Lloyds Bank and Midland Bank. The Languages for Export Advisory Scheme is managed by the British Chambers of Commerce, and prepares company audits and assesses training needs. Contact 01203 694492. The National Business Language Information Service supplies information on interpreting, translation and training. Contact 0171-379 5131.

BUSINESS TO BUSINESS

Advertisement for Business to Business featuring various services like General, Business for Sale, Business Opportunities, Wholesalers, and Business Services.

COMPUTERS & COMPUTING SERVICES

Large advertisement for Prestige TNT computers, highlighting features like Intel Pentium II processor, 350MHz, and various software options.

Advertisement for Communications 2000 International Calls, listing rates for UK & USA 5p and other international destinations.

Advertisement for The Lord Chancellor's Department Court Reporting Services, detailing the types of reports and contact information.

Pigeon fancier among Magpies

Thanks to Fantasy League rules you can have Duncan Ferguson and Alan Shearer in your team, Nick Szczepanik reports

Julian Joachim of Aston Villa fired off another two-goal reminder to John Gregory, the Villa manager, in the 2-2 draw with Nottingham Forest at the City Ground, and, as detailed opposite, both Trevor Sinclair of West Ham and Danny Cadamarteri of Everton rifled in pairs of goals in their clubs' victories over Tottenham and Charlton respectively.

Nevertheless, the coveted *Times* Fantasy League player of the week award goes to football's most famous pigeon fancier, Duncan Ferguson, who scored twice on his debut for Newcastle at St James' Park, where they know a thing or two about centre-forwards.

Alan Shearer is the man in possession of the talismanic number 11, but Ferguson is to all other intents and purposes the quintessential big number nine, with all that entails in the way of home-shuddering aerial challenges and far-post headers bulleted into the net.

That is not to say that Ferguson lacks skill on the ground, as his volleyed opener from Nolbert Solano's left-wing cross proved; but the final-minute header from a corner-kick, assisted though it undoubtedly was by the friendly divot that took the ball past Neil Sullivan, the Wimbledon goalkeeper, is the type of goal that the Tyneside faithful will expect to see more of.

The big questions concern Ferguson's racing pigeons, which may have more trouble adjusting to their new surroundings than their owner does, and his Everton tattoo. Will it be joined, or replaced, by a Newcastle United one?

Still, new club, new Ferguson: those who had never heard the great man speak, thanks to his refusal to speak to the press, were as shocked as those who first witnessed talking pictures in the 1930s when Sky Sports featured what purported to be an interview with Newcastle's new boy. A hoax, surely? No — there he was, again, speaking to the press after the game.

"You always feel under pressure if you go for a big fee and it's always nice to get off the mark as soon as you can," Ferguson said. "I'm made up with the support I got from the fans, but I knew I would if I put on a good show. It's only one game, but I think they were pleasantly surprised."

The six-point haul brings Ferguson into 16 points, the same as Shearer, who is expected to form a dream partnership up front — or to be sold within weeks, depending on which pundit you believe. Meanwhile, since Ferguson remains an Everton player for Fantasy League transfer purposes, you can have both parts of the new Newcastle forward pairing in your team too.

An accident of the future list means that Ferguson, Joachim and company are not the highest points scoring players of the week. Michael Ball, who scored Everton's winning goal



The Loki Players XI

T Flowers (BLA)	0
A Hinchcliffe (SHE)	0
M Ball (EVE)	6
H A Carbonari (DER)	6
P Bash (LIV)	3
D White (CHE)	3
D Woodman (MAN)	0
L Bowyer (LEE)	0
D Givoda (TOT)	0
N Amadio (ARS)	3
J Joachim (AST)	6
Total: 28 points	

against Newcastle last Monday night, when he was also part of a defence that kept a clean sheet, earned a further two points at The Valley on Saturday with an assist for one of Cadamarteri's goals, giving him a total of eight for the week, and 26 in total, the best for a full-back. However, he failed to convert a penalty earned by Ibrahim Bakayoko, which would have brought him up to 11.

Nevertheless, Ball's contribution was enough to secure the weekly prize of £500 cash and £100 worth of sports equipment for an Everton supporter, Gary Jones, of Great Broughton, Chester, whose team, "Loki Players", amassed 28 points.

"Very surprised," Mr Jones, who has not previously entered a team in a fantasy football competition, said. "I've been having a bad time with my team recently. I picked players who did well last year, but it was pure pot luck really."

Horacio Carbonari's winner for Derby County at The Dell, and his part in preventing Southampton from scoring, worth another six points, and Joachim's brace of strikes, were also valuable, as were an assist from David Givoda, whose corner led to Chris Armstrong's headed consolation goal at West Ham, and that most unlikely of points sources, a clean sheet for a Liverpool defender (Phil Ball, in this case).

But then Mr Jones, who works in car security, ought to know all about statistics.

FANTASY PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Blue, for once, is not the colour: after more than five seasons, the idea of Duncan Ferguson in anything other than the blue of Glasgow Rangers and then Everton is an alien one. But here it is, in black and white: Ferguson celebrates two goals against Wimbledon on his debut for the Magpies at St James' Park

FANTASY LEAGUE TOP 100

1 James Walsh	Tigers Arlye	169
2 Phil Clarke	Shabadi United	169
3 Michael Langdon	Hermaphrodites	163
4 John White	Fusegear	161
5 Brian Higdale	Dave's Deans FC	158
6 David Young	Dave 10	158
7 Robert Little	Broken Arrow	157
8 Sean Morgan	Di Not Again Ref	157
9 Robert Anderson	Roberts Rovers	157
10 Tony Murtagh	Tony's Terros	157
11 Martin White	Grampus Gunners	156
12 David Walker	Don Dion Dron	156
13 Terry Bullen	Coen Brothers	155
14 Sean Eastwood	Spartak Mossley	155
15 L Samuels	Just A Second FC	154
16 Thomas Meakin	It's All Stars	154
17 James Riley	The Promix Stars	154
18 Reda Maher	Picadissuals	154
19 Andrew James Spencer	This One's Mine	154
20 Robin Playdon	Robin's Raiders	154
21 Nicholas Knightley	These Eat Beans	153
22 Jonathan Bewick	Bozza's Boyz	152
23 David Perry	Yeah Yeah Yeah Yeah	152
24 Nigel Kab	Kalbs Kings 8	151
25 Ron Allport	Cyclones	151
26 Gillian Rose	Bernie's Fleas	151
27 James Kerr	Serious Squad	150
28 Rory Walker	No name	150
29 B Webber	Colour Me Blue	150
30 David Mead	In The City	150
31 Stuart Bratherton	Moggy's Fern	149
32 Ian Dunning	Univ De Dunning	149
33 Bob Chubb	Sopfic 8	149
34 Alan Garden	Loose Pollers	148
35 Ben Meehan	Edmo Utd Mington	148
36 David Edmondson	Lepetovemars	148
37 William Sargent	Sunfish Stars	148
38 C Sharpe	Rough And Smooth	147
39 Steve Martin	Fantasy One	147
40 John Saunders	Daisy's Dynamos	147
41 Philip Palmer	Not Athletic	147
42 Richard Deane	Bush Reds	147
43 Simon Thompson	X-Ray Vision	147
44 Gareth Jones	Perky's Athletics	147
45 Neil Perkins	The Untouchables	147
46 Joan Whalston	Globerges XI	146
47 Dorothy Houghton	Comelius XI	146
48 Aaron Le Cornu	Viagra United	146
49 Gary Armstrong	Managed By Faldo	146
50 Don Fairley	Monday Moaners	146
51 Darren Braggins	Chapelton Elite	146
52 Neil Bradbrook	Do I Need Owenic	146
53 James McGregor	Revolution 1	145
54 Marian Knappman	George F C	145
55 D Osborne	Titus All Stars	145
56 David Swithbank	Escapism's good 4u	145
57 C Peart	On The Wagon	145
58 Murray Macmillan	Peas' Event	145
59 Richard Deane	Armchair Horwed	145
60 Dawn Ledger	Headstart Times	145
61 Iain Gibson	Nichie City	145
62 Colin Head	Try Again	145
63 Nickin Howell	Pertimes	144
64 Mobin Patel	Barnstormers	144
65 Paul Carter	Lawnmowers	144
66 David Pugh	Etc 2 Lic 0	144
67 Steven Barrow	Don 5	144
68 Chris Baker	Porno Flick	144
69 Philip McNamara	Kings United B	144
70 Don Shuter	Yebocoonator	144
71 Richard Yorlath	Throw In Muffin	144
72 Stephen King	Up-to-date	144
73 Miles Tappin	Crobal	144
74 Miles Lawson	Holytump Yagler	144
75 Chandria Fokeer	Hillbillys Utd 3	143
76 Ivica Capric	Wilkeson Eleven	143
77 Colin Head	The Fluff Pags	143
78 Chris Hill	Tc Tomatoes	143
79 Pritesh Gadhia	Bill & Ted's Team	143
80 David McCutcheon	Solid At The Bar	143
81 Teresa Crotin	Inter City 442	143
82 Peter Rees	Walsall Reserves	143
83 John Lofthouse	Allyoops	143
84 Jas Singh	Lees Eleven	143
85 David Wise	Stamma 11	143
86 Alison Cobbin	Kodey And Kelle	142
87 Keith Davies	The Town FC	142
88 Iain Bouskill	Headstart Gunard	142
89 Anthony McMaster	Millenium	142
90 Tony Baker	Barrett St Boys	142
91 Colin Head	Grossancompetence	142
92 Alison Carney	Sue's Stars	142
93 Tony Burns	Team 5	142
94 Nicholas Langford	Wb 20	142
95 Graham Adamson	Charm Raiders	142
96 Andrew Wilson	Malton	142
97 Glen Reynolds	Howmenyousant	142
98 Peter Finch		142
99 Malcolm McFarlane		142
99 Colin Campbell		142
Plus three others on 142 points		

As I was saying . . .

I've hit a bit of a problem with your Christmas present: I thought it was all cut and dried — the Newcastle United socks, wasn't it?

That was the plan. I don't mind if you've decided on something a little grander, as befits my joint-manager status. Assistant manager. We agreed that last week.

Assistant manager, then. What's wrong with the socks, anyway? A long and strange story. You remember that Newcastle played in new white socks against Sheffield Wednesday two weeks ago?

Indeed I do. You pointed out that Rudi Garcia once said that he'd always won trophies with clubs that wore white socks. So?

Well, I tried to order the spanking new socks from the Newcastle club shop, but they don't stock them. Only the black ones that they wore until the Wednesday match.

A bit short-sighted so soon before Christmas, isn't it? You would have thought that there was a big marketing opportunity there. "We don't stock the socks," I was told when I phoned the shop at St James' Park. One of the other shops said they didn't know anything

It's the Chairman/Manager arguing over team selection



about the change. There seems to be a denial that it has even happened. The locals all probably remember that the last time Newcastle changed to white socks, for the 1974 Cup Final, they were thrashed by Liverpool, and don't want to admit it's happening.

That could very well be. The shop said I should phone the club. You're not getting a bit obsessive about this at all, are you?

I like a mystery. Anyway, the club said they had only changed that day to avoid a clash with the visitors.

Eh? The visitors always change to avoid a clash with the home team. And Wednesday's away kit is all yellow.

Exactly. And there on this Saturday's Match Of The Day was Big Dunc in his white socks, scoring two goals on his debut.

I noticed. Four players scored two goals on Saturday, and none of them is in either of our two teams. What's all this our two teams?

They're my two teams. I paid the entrance fee, I might remind you. A touch of the Michael Knighton. Ron Noades or John Reames creeping in here, I think.

Who's this Reames character? He was the chairman of Lincoln City until a few weeks ago. Then he sacked Shane Westley, the manager, and added the job to his own.

How has it been going since? Not bad at all. Lincoln won a tricky FA Cup tie, and got a draw at home to Luton in their next two games. Forget about player-managers, this is the era of the manager-chairman.

As my record will probably prove. But what about the socks? That one will run and run.

CHECK YOUR SCORES TELEPHONE 0640 62 51 02

YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERBOARD

1 Robert Anderson	Roberts Rovers	157
2 David Swithbank	Titus All Stars	145
3 Chris Hill	Hillbillys Utd 3	144
4 David McCutcheon	The Fluff Pags	143
5 Peter Finch	Cheam Raiders	142
6 James Luff	Box Kid FC	141
7 William Sargent	The Hill Billies	140
8 Robert Little	Gaga	139
9 Tom Summers	Ganchou	139
9 Nick Sammons	Nick N' Harry	139



Julian Joachim: another two goals for Villa on Saturday

Lovely movers from Yorke to Dublin

Last week, Duncan Ferguson and Andy Impey became the latest players to join the Premiership transfer merry-go-round, and there appears to be evidence that moving clubs can greatly affect the Fantasy League tallies of the players involved.

Frank Sinclair was regarded as "surplus to requirements" at Chelsea and moved to Leicester where he has cemented a regular starting place. The move has done no favours to his disciplinary record, this weekend's sending off adding to six previous bookings.

The first player to transfer between Premiership teams once the season had begun was Dwight Yorke. He failed to score on his sole appearance for

Villa this season, but has amassed 35 points in 13 games for his new club — a phenomenal ratio.

Other players to move just a week into the season were Spencer Prior (Leicester to Derby) and Colin Cooper (Nottingham Forest to Middlesbrough). Prior was not assured of a first-team place at Leicester, but has become a Rams regular. Cooper is playing in a more organised defence, which results in more of those crucial clean sheets.

Three of the next four inter-Premiership transfers involved players moving to Aston Villa: Paul Merson, Steve Watson and Dion Dublin. The move does not seem to have significantly affected Merson's

points-scoring potential: Watson's move to Villa has not been helped by the Midlands' recent defensive frailties, but his attacking instincts for his new club have resulted in three assists in his last three games.

Dion Dublin was never a slouch at Coventry, but his move to Villa has resulted in a

points surge. In four games for his new club, he has scored seven goals for 21 points.

It is too early to say whether Duncan Ferguson and Andy Impey will benefit from their recent transfers, but it appears that big Dunc could take a liking to Tyneside if he continues to get the service he thrives on. Impey moved to Leicester as he felt he was no longer a certain starter at West Ham, but still faces a battle for the right wing-back role with Robbie Savage.

However, one player whose move has had disastrous consequences on his Fantasy League score is Christian Dailly. The Scotland international gained a clean sheet on the opening day of the

GOING PLACES?

Player	Old Ptd	New Ptd	New Ptd Pts
F Sinclair	CHE 0	LEI 14	3
C Dailly	DER 1	BLA 9	-5
C Cooper	NOT 0	DER 1	7
P Merson	MID 3	AST 10	13
C Hill	EVE 2	CHA 8	3
S Watson	NEW 6	AST 4	-2
D Dublin	COV 10	AST 15	4
A Impey	WES 6	LEI 1	0
D Ferguson	EVE 12	NEW 1	6

season for Derby, before moving to their opposition that day — Blackburn. Dailly's points tally was expected to increase as a result of his move, but since joining the Lancashire outfit, Dailly has scored a miserable minus six!

MATT SIMS

FANTASY LEAGUE FAXBACK SERVICE

To receive a comprehensive breakdown of your team's performance use our unique faxback service. The service will be updated by noon every Tuesday.

- Make sure you have your 10-digit PIN to hand when you call.
- Pick up the handset of your fax machine (if you do not have a handset then press the on-hook or telephone button) and dial 0991 123 720 (ex-UK +44 870 901 4280).
- Listen carefully to the instructions and press the appropriate buttons when asked.
- If you have any problems using this service call 0171-432 3795.

YOUR FAXBACK SERVICE

0991 123 720

(ex-UK +44 870 901 4280)

Calls cost £1 per minute (ex-UK numbers charged at national rates)

NEWS

EU prepares taxation bonfire

Gordon Brown will today concede for the first time that some British tax incentives which are out of step with the rest of the European Union may have to be scrapped.

Paraplegic loses £1m damages award

A promising student who was left paralysed for life after diving into a college swimming pool with friends had his damages award worth an estimated £1 million removed by three judges yesterday after they held that he was to blame for his injuries.

Fine evaders tracked

Offenders who disappear after failing to pay fines imposed by magistrates courts face the prospect of being tracked down via social security records under Whitehall plans.

Blair school improved

The West London comprehensive where Tony Blair sends his sons is one of the most improved schools in England, according to an examination of league tables published today by the Government.

Gay activist in court

Peter Tatchell, the gay rights activist, violated the sanctity of Canterbury Cathedral with "unseemly and indecorous" behaviour when he stormed the pulpit during the Archbishop's Easter Sunday sermon this year, a court was told.

TV soaps raided

Soap opera, traditionally regarded as the poor relation of serious television drama, is to have the last word this winter. BBC1 has raided the talent cupboard of EastEnders and Brookside to cast its three new series.

Milk delivery tragedy

A schoolboy who earned extra pocketmoney helping a milkman with his rounds was drowned after the milkman ignored warnings and drove his van into a violent flash-flood, a court was told yesterday.

New blood rules in class overhaul

Football managers, restaurateurs, teachers and police officers are the new elite. All four groups rank among Britain's highest social class under a new classification system unveiled by the Office for National Statistics.

Illnesses linked

Up to one in five glandular fever sufferers will develop chronic fatigue syndrome, according to a report published today, which claims to prove a relationship between the two illnesses for the first time.

Soldiers win appeal

Three British soldiers who were jailed for life without remission in Cyprus for the murder of a young Danish woman four years ago have won an appeal to have their sentences shortened.

BSE advice faults

The former Conservative Health Secretary Stephen Dorrell yesterday told the BSE inquiry that government advice on beef safety could have been clearer. He said the initial statement that beef is safe was later replaced by a further definition.

Anwar lawyer jailed

The legal struggle over the future of Anwar Ibrahim, the former Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, took a dramatic turn yesterday when a judge jailed one of his leading defence lawyers for contempt of court.

Hanks regret on aid

Tom Hanks, Hollywood's leader good-guy actor, now "regrets" making a generous donation to President Clinton's legal defence fund because of what he has since learned about the Monica Lewinsky scandal.



Austrians parade as devils to remind locals about the "eternal evil everywhere" until St Nicholas brings peace on December 6

BUSINESS

Total advantage: Shares in Petrofina were suspended yesterday.

Shares in Petrofina were suspended yesterday as Total, the French energy giant, looked close to beating its larger French rival, Elf-Aquitaine, in the battle to buy Petrofina for about £7 billion.

Job losses: Around 3,000 jobs are expected to go in the City with the £6.1 billion takeover of Bankers Trust by Deutsche Bank.

London Electricity, the privatised utility, is being acquired by Electricite de France, the French state-owned firm.

Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 100.3 to 5743.9.

The pound fell 0.48 cents to \$1.613 and fell 3.63 pfennig to DM2.7925. The sterling index fell to 100.5 from 101.6.

SPORT

Football: Peter Johnson resigned as Everton chairman in the wake of his row with the manager, Walter Smith.

After the controversial sale of Duncan Ferguson to Newcastle United.

Cricket: After the seven-wicket defeat by Australia in the second Test, Alec Stewart described his side's first-innings performance as poor as any he had seen.

A scan revealed no serious damage to Paul Grayson's knee and it is hoped that he will be fit for selection against South Africa this weekend.

Athletics: Paula Radcliffe is to compete in the European cross country championships for the first time and can expect to start as favourite.

AMERICAN SONGBOOK

The singer-songwriter Nanci Griffith brings her intimate storytelling style to the bar in a concert hampered by the sound system.

The State Opera of South Australia in Adelaide has stolen a march on the cultural hub of Sydney by mounting the continent's first ever production of Wagner's Ring.

Mountain man: In 1802 the 27-year-old artist Turner made an expedition to the Alps.

The momentous fruits of that journey are showcased at the Tate Gallery.

Waiting for Beckett: Jeremy Kingston sits through Molloy, a 60-minute Beckett monologue at the Riverside Studios, and loses all track of punctuation.

After Lockerbie: Ten years on, a doctor reveals how the 747 crash at Lockerbie changed attitudes to trauma.

Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports some encouraging news for sufferers of oesophageal tumours.

Capital tips: In the second extract from his book, The Crisis of Global Capitalism, George Soros puts forward the measures needed to save us from a global crisis.

The French have never been afraid of reform. Even judges can be young and middle-class.

Funny money: London is gaining notoriety as a prime target for money-launderers. Is the reputation justified?

A unilateral withdrawal from Lebanon is a solution based on the balance of fear, in which either side could use excessive force in the event of a flare-up.

Pinochet extradition: eclipse in Cornwall: BNP at Dulwich: Reforming the Lords: funerals: Blair's hands.

Pinochet extradition: eclipse in Cornwall: BNP at Dulwich: Reforming the Lords: funerals: Blair's hands.



Tom Hanks, Hollywood's leader good-guy actor, now "regrets" making a generous donation to President Clinton's legal defence fund because of what he has since learned about the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

HOMES Where you can do your lengths without leaving the comfort of your home: new schemes with gyms and pools

INTERFACE The magical kingdom of Dr Goodnight: a software utopia

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,963

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-29 and some pre-filled letters.

- ACROSS 1 Views in both directions (4). 3 English raccouree lacking a starter gets one from Ayr, perhaps (4). 6 Fix it with new thread (5). 10 Intercept illegal entry (5-2). 11 Warned little boys pinching sovereign (7). 12 Camping with one, on purpose (9). 13 Trimmed stockings, etc. one put in basket (5). 14 Exercise round piano for virtuoso (6). 16 Time and energy after career change to be productive again (9). 18 Settling back into wealth, communist is straying (8). 19 Command from top man accepted (6).

Word search puzzle with a grid and a list of words to find.

FA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions. UK Weather - All regions 0330 444 910. UK Roads - All regions 0330 401 410.

Weather by Fax

World City Weather. 193 destinations world wide. by phone 0330 411210. by fax 0330 411210.

Motoring

Europe Country by Country. 0330 401 883. 0330 401 884. 0330 401 887. 0330 401 890.

Car reports by fax

Hours of Darkness. Sun sets: 4:17 am. Sun sets: 3:57 pm.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

QUICK CLUE NO 4. Inflatable craft that can't run on fresh air (8). (See right.)

FORECAST

General: odd shower possible in SE and it will again be cold, but most of England and Wales will dry with sunny spells. Parts of N England will have some drizzle. N Ireland and Scotland will be milder than elsewhere.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

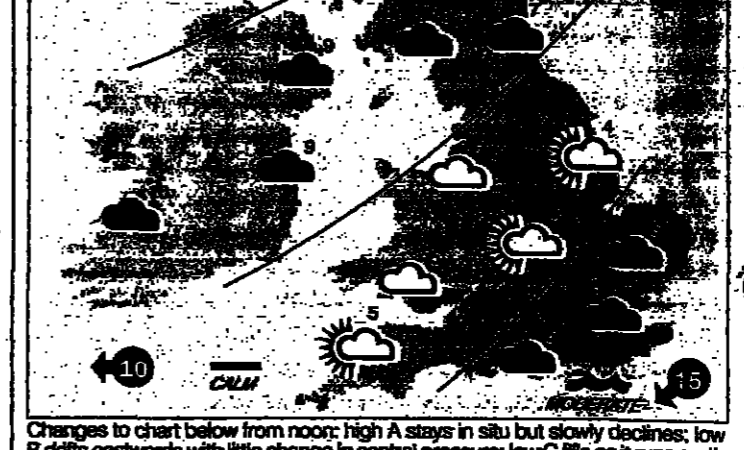
Table with columns for location, sun, rain, cloud, etc. for various UK regions.

ABROAD

Table with columns for location, sun, rain, cloud, etc. for various international locations.



Changes to chart below from noon: high A stays in situ but slowly declines, low B drifts eastwards with little change in central pressure; low C fills as it runs north



Today: AM, HT, PM, HT, TODAY, AM, HT, PM, HT. Aberrdeen 11:18, Aberdeen 11:18, Aberdeen 11:18.

Table with columns for location, AM, HT, PM, HT, TODAY, AM, HT, PM, HT.

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Aberrdeen, Highland, 12C (54F); lowest day temp: High Westwood, Orkney, 2C (36F); highest night temp: Salsburgh, 5C (41F); lowest night temp: Outer Hebrides, 0.2C (32.4F).

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY BUSINESS LEADER

Deu to co

BY CAROLINE... AND OLIVER... ABOUT 3000... today's \$101... from agreed... ers Trust by... However... will create... financial serv... cludes a SAVI... of incentives... at Bankers... Deutsche Bank... people in the... Trust employ... whom are m... The publis... her blow... many instab... admin staff... in global re... 2,500 jobs... needed to r... New York... Deutsche... redundance... al of DME... which work... £100,000 p... sche to redu... DML7 bill... 2001. The... its global p... ment manag... management... group will... lion worldw... UK Ansh... the deal... not give De... hal clout... ing as Gold... gan Stanle... would fulfil... of securing... on Wall St... ing that it... risk. The... into invest... time when... has shown... the strateg... Rolf Broer... chairman, sa...

Alliance of Shell and Texaco off

SHHELL and Texaco... abandoned plans... reopen refine... ing joint ven... three months... operations to... than £120 m... (Carl Morris... on its down... es would not... enough shar... value and in... talks had id... that could n... The breaklo... alliance did... industry exp... little syme... European... Anglo-Dutch... and its much... can partner... The propos... would have... competition... The Netherl... way, but f... tant mark... many.

We hold the best judge... Lifeboats... 0800 543210

INSIDE SECTION
2
TODAY



ECONOMICS
Anatole Kaletsky says Europe must do rate-cut duty
PAGE 31



ARTS
Nanci Griffith gives a musical history lesson
PAGES 34-36



LAW
Even the judges are chic in France
PAGES 39-41

TELEVISION AND RADIO
Pages 50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY DECEMBER 1 1998

Deutsche's \$10bn deal to cost 3,000 City jobs

BY CAROLINE MERRILL AND OLIVER AUGUST

ABOUT 3,000 jobs are expected to be cut in the City after yesterday's \$10.1 billion (£6.1 billion) agreed takeover of Bankers Trust by Deutsche Bank.

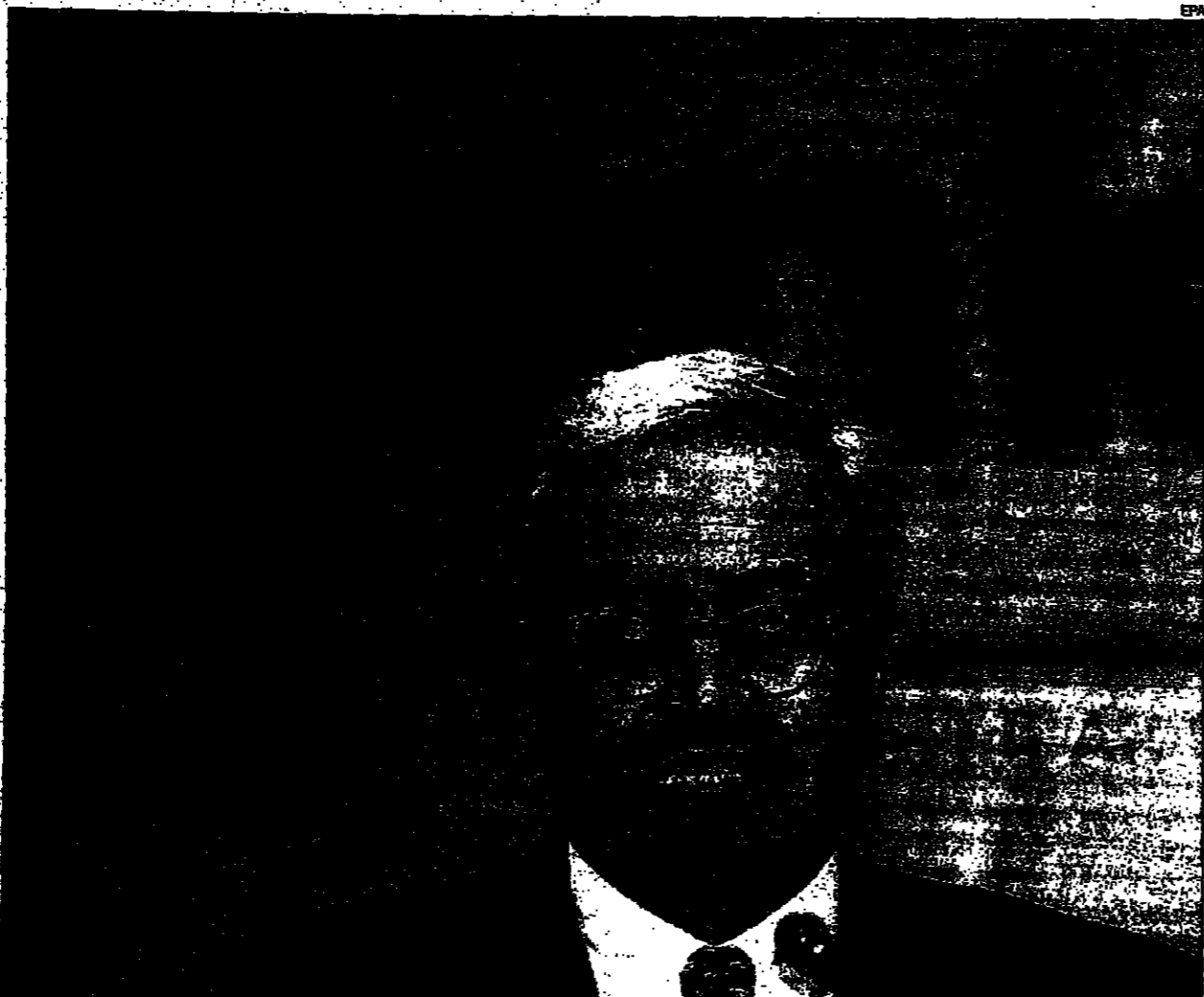
However, the deal, which will create the world's largest financial services company, includes a \$400 million package of incentives to retain key staff at Bankers Trust. Overall, Deutsche Bank employs 6,200 people in the UK and Bankers Trust employs 2,400, 1,000 of whom are in Edinburgh.

The job losses come as a further blow to the City, where many institutions have been making staff after the downturn in global markets. A further 2,500 jobs worldwide are expected to be lost as a result of the merger - most of them in New York.

Deutsche Bank said that the redundancies would cost it a total of DM2 billion (£716,000), which works out at about £130,000 per employee. The merger will allow Deutsche to reduce costs by about DM1.7 billion a year from 2001. The bank said that the deal would allow it to increase its global presence in investment management and asset management. The combined group will manage \$690 billion worldwide.

UK analysts were sceptical of the deal, arguing that it does not give Deutsche a strategic global clout in investment banking as Goldman Sachs or Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. Analysts agreed that the purchase would fulfil Deutsche's dream of securing a sizeable presence on Wall Street but gave warning that it entails considerable risk. The bank is expanding into investment banking at a time when market turbulence has shown the potential cost of the strategy.

Rolf Breuer, Deutsche Bank chairman, said that Bankers



Rolf Breuer announcing Deutsche Bank's takeover of Bankers Trust at yesterday's press conference in Frankfurt

Trust as the eighth-biggest bank in America, represented "an ideal complement to our own business portfolio."

He said: "The combination creates a strategic presence and strengthens our leadership position in many business areas, where we compete globally."

Herr Breuer emphasised that Europe would remain the most important market. "In fu-

ture, we shall be a European bank with an American platform second to none," he said.

To guarantee rapid integration, Frank Newman, the Bankers Trust president, will join Deutsche Bank's management board.

Yesterday's deal is set to spark another round of salary increases on Wall Street. Deutsche is worried that valuable Bankers Trust executives

could leave instead of fighting with their new German colleagues for the top positions. Headhunters are known to have already started recruiting in line with Frankfurt's more austere pay regime.

The retention money will be paid out over the next two years. The arrangements are meant to act as golden handcuffs. According to Herr Breuer, the money will be based on individual merit. But it has

also been suggested that Deutsche may try to use the funds to buy out lucrative Bankers Trust stock options to bring them into line with Frankfurt's more austere pay regime.

The deal takes effect if two thirds of Bankers Trust's shareholders accept the \$93-a-share offer. It also needs approval from anti-trust authorities.

Commentary, page 29

EdF's £2bn London bid sparks protests

BY ADAM JONES

THE £2 billion takeover of London Electricity by Electricite de France (EdF), the French state-owned firm, confirmed yesterday, has prompted claims that UK utilities are losing out to unfair competition from across the Channel.

Energy, of America, is making a profit of £500 million on the sale of London, which it has owned for less than two years. EdF has agreed to acquire the business despite the risk of a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission and would be obliged to sell it on to a third party if the deal is blocked.

Tony Cooper, the general secretary of the electricity supply trade unions, said he would be writing to Peter Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, to campaign for a "level playing field" between France and the UK.

He said coal-fired power stations in the UK were being damaged by "cut-price" exports from EdF, transferred to the UK through the cross-channel interconnector.

He also claimed that EdF enjoyed an unfair advantage over British bidders for London, saying it could raise money more cheaply on the capital markets because of its state parentage, enabling it to bid more.

He added that the situation was worsened by the nationalised French electricity industry being closed to UK investors: "It's not possible for a British company to buy a slice of the French industry." There will be a loosening of EdF's supply monopoly in France in January.

While emphasising that tech unions were happy with EdF's

record as an employer, Mr Cooper said they wanted a referral to the MMC or the imposition of conditions on acceptance.

One disappointed bidder echoed Mr Cooper when he claimed EdF was given extra financing muscle by its nationalised status. He said: "It seems difficult to justify a bid at the level of the French offer."

EdF denied claims that it could borrow more cheaply. Jack Czaim, managing director of its international operations, claimed its cost of capital was no lower than that of British Energy, thought to be its nearest rival in the bidding.

The other companies thought to have made it to the last round of bidding included National Power, Singapore Power and RWE of Germany.

Mr Czaim said a report that John Devaney, the former head of Eastern Electricity, was in line for the top job at London was "speculation".

EdF believes European - rather than British - competition authorities will take the lead in considering whether the deal should be cleared. It is confident that there are no grounds for refusal but if it is blocked, it and not Energy will be liable for the extra costs. It is thought that EdF is expecting some conditions to be attached to regulatory clearance.

The purchase price includes £1.39 billion in cash, plus the assumption of about £500 million debt. A London Electricity spokesman said it was too early to say what will happen to staffing levels.

Commentary, page 29

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET MOVES

FTSE 100	5743.8	(-100.3)
Yield	2.81%	
FTSE All Share	2626.06	(-38.84)
Nikkei	14853.70	(-185.89)
New York		
Dow Jones	9215.42	(-117.89)
S&P Composite	1175.09	(-16.84)

US TREASURY

Federal Funds	5.50%	(5%)
Long bond	102.25	(101%)
Yield	5.10%	(5.17%)

LOAN MARKET

3-month interbank	6.75%	(6.75%)
Libor long gdt		
Future (Dec)	117.09	(116.53)

STERLING

New York		
London	1.8487	(1.8538)
DM	1.6508	(1.6560)
DM	2.7308	(2.7357)
FF	5.3508	(5.3557)
FF	2.2568	(2.2617)
Yen	202.89	(203.06)
£ index	101.5	(101.6)

US DOLLAR

London	1.6964	(1.7133)
DM	1.3882	(1.4123)
FF	1.3882	(1.4123)
Yen	123.24	(123.05)
£ index	107.1	(107.8)

TOKYO CLOSING

Tokyo close Yen	123.80
-----------------	--------

MONTHLY SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb)	\$10.60 (\$11.55)
--------------------	-------------------

COMMODITIES

London close	\$292.05 (\$298.05)
--------------	---------------------

* denotes midday trading prices

Barclays considers Oates for chief's job

BY JASON NISSE AND FRASER NELSON

BARCLAYS is considering Keith Oates as a potential new chief executive after it emerged that the outgoing deputy chairman of Mark & Spencer has thrown his hat into the ring at the troubled bank.

A City source close to Mr Oates confirmed yesterday that he was interested in taking one of the two top jobs at Barclays, following the shock resignation of Martin Taylor, chief executive, and the imminent departure of Andrew Buxton, the chairman.

Sir Peter Middleton, who retired from an executive role at the bank earlier this year, has been brought back as a caretaker chief executive.

Mr Oates, 55, who is leaving after being blocked in his attempt to become chief executive, launched M&S's financial services arm. It now has 560,000 customers and made a £90 million profit last year.

"Barclays is looking for both an executive chairman and a chief executive," said the source. "Keith will definitely be interested."

Within Barclays it is understood that Mr Oates' candidacy is being taken seriously. The bank has instructed Spencer Stuart, the headhunter, to find candidates for the two vacant roles. Mr Oates leaves M&S at the end of next month.

One of the two jobs will go to a banker and it is likely that Barclays would want someone with banking experience, such as Mr Oates, for the other.

Commentary page 29

Alliance of Shell and Texaco off

SHELL and Texaco have abandoned plans for a European refining and marketing joint venture, ending three months of detailed negotiations aimed at combining operations to save more than £120 million a year (Carl Monthis writes).

Shell said that the deal on its downstream businesses would not have generated enough shareholder value and indicated that the talks had identified issues that could not be resolved.

The breakdown of the alliance did not surprise oil industry experts, who saw little synergy between the European interests of the Anglo-Dutch Shell group and its much weaker American partner.

The proposed venture would have given Shell competition problems in The Netherlands and Norway, but few gains in important markets such as Germany.

Total poised to take Petrofina

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

SHARES in Petrofina were suspended yesterday as Total, the French energy giant, looked close to beating its larger Gallic rival, Elf-Aquitaine, in a £7 billion bid battle for the Belgian oil group.

Total's board was locked in talks last night ahead of an announcement expected this morning.

Petrofina's shares were suspended at 14.250 Belgian francs, valuing the company at BFR342 billion (£5.8 billion). Analysts in Paris and Brussels said they expected Total to beat off Elf-Aquitaine in the battle for Petrofina with an offer of about BFR18,000 a share valuing the company at £7.3 billion.

Albert Eyre, a Brussels-based financier and Petrofina's biggest shareholder, was reported yesterday to be willing to sell his 30.84 per cent stake to the highest bidder. A number of Belgian companies that hold stakes in Petro-

fina also saw their shares suspended on the Brussels bourse.

Until last week the Paris market had assumed the winner would be Elf, the world's eighth biggest oil group. After failing to take over Conoco, the US oil company, Elf has been widely expected to follow the consolidation lead set by the recent mega-mergers of BP and Amoco, and the American giants, Exxon and Mobil.

Total, which stands two places behind Elf in global rankings, also needs to grow as falling oil prices force economies of scale. After it made record first-half profits of FF3.9 billion (£410 million) there was French press speculation that it may bid for the American oil group, Texaco.

Analysts say that although Petrofina is one of Belgium's biggest companies, with 15,000 employees worldwide, it is too small to survive on its own.

Alders cuts 60 staff as sales slide

ALLDERS, the department and furniture store group, has made 60 staff redundant in response to worsening trade in the past two months (Sarah Cunningham writes).

Its overall same store sales have dipped 3.7 per cent since the beginning of October. Alders has decided to withdraw from selling personal computers after seeing sales fall 50 per cent on last year in the face of stiff mail-order and supermarket competition.

Uno, another furniture retailer, is expecting a "significant" first-half loss after seeing like-for-like sales fall 11.6 per cent on last year in the 28 weeks to November 7.

In the six months to September 30 Alders' pre-tax profit fell from £23.1 million to £19.4 million on sales that rose 6 per cent to £520 million. On earnings per share of 17.3p, the company is paying a final dividend of 5p, giving a total for the year of 8.4p (Sp).

Tempos, page 30

US sees festive sales bonanza

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

WHILE British high street retailers worry about sluggish Christmas sales, US consumers are spending their way to a gift shopping bonanza that looks set to exceed last year's record levels.

The first figures of the festive season indicate that Americans are spending 5 per cent more this year. Macy's and other New York retail meccas were virtually ransacked by shoppers last weekend, following the Thanksgiving holiday.

Shoppers started off the official Christmas season and cleared out many special offers by midday on Saturday.

Kurt Barnard, president of Barnard's Retail Trend Report, said: "The holiday season basically got off to a rousing bargain hunt."

The upbeat reports from America's retailers will cheer economists who have feared a downturn. Many Wall Street watchers have said the seven-year boom has been largely

fed by the vigorous spending of American consumers.

The shopping spree was also taken as a sign that consumers are not anticipating another drop in the stock market that might cut disposable incomes. The number of Americans who own shares has rocketed since the introduction of direct dealing via the Internet.

The Internet has also changed Christmas shopping habits. Online commerce, long derided as unprofitable, seems to be gaining ground.

Internet sales are expected to double this year to \$2.3 billion (£1.3 billion). Gifts such as books, compact discs and electronic equipment are particularly suited to so-called e-commerce. Amazon.com, the Internet bookseller, has seen a four-fold rise in "hits" compared with last year while CDNow, an online music retailer, has tripled business.

Commentary, page 29

Consumers start to feel the pinch

HOUSE prices rose at their slowest rate for two years while credit card lending slipped to its lowest level in six months, providing firm evidence that the economic slowdown is spreading to the consumer sector (Alasdair Murray and Anne Ashworth write).

The Nationwide November house price index rose by just 0.1 per cent, leaving the annual rate of growth at 6.9 per cent - the lowest since September 1996. However, new mortgage approvals rose from 80,000 to 86,000 in October and net mortgage lending fell only marginally to £2.08 billion.

Consumer credit in October slipped from £125 billion to £118 billion. The credit card element rose by only £307 million, the lowest since February. M0 - narrow money supply - also slipped to an annual rate of 4.8 per cent in November, against 5.4 per cent the previous month.

This has to be one of the best 5 year capped rates currently on the market. Over the 5 year period you'll never pay more than 6.29% (6.5% APR), but if rates fall below the cap, you can take advantage. There are no compulsory insurances and redemption penalties only apply during the capped period. The details: 5 year capped rate 6.29% (6.5% APR) to 1/2/2004. Available for purchases to 95% of property value, and remortgages to 90%. Redemption penalties: 6 months interest until 1/2/2004. Call now for your nearest branch.

JOHN CHARCOL
0800 71 81 91

Talk about a better mortgage.

We hold that each man is the best judge of his own interest.

At 6.29% (6.5% APR) capped for five years, we judge this to be one of the best interest rate deals around.

John Charcol

Based on a £75,000 interest only mortgage on a property valued at £100,000, repaid over 25 years, 300 gross monthly repayments of £385.13 at 6.29% (6.5% APR). Total amount payable £150,875.58 calculated to include an arrangement fee of £385, £49 John Charcol reservation fee, £205 valuation fee, £125 solicitors fees, deeds administration fee. Based on a £75,000 interest only mortgage on a property valued at £100,000, repaid over 25 years and assumes the lender's Standard Variable Rate will remain at 6.29% (6.5% APR) for the remainder of the loan. A: or the capped rate has expired the APR will vary. Where loans exceed 95% of property value, additional security in the form of a mortgage indemnity premium will be required. Mortgage secured on property. Insurance may be required. Loans subject to status, type and value of property. Limited funds available. John Charcol operates through branches and franchisees (who are appointed by us) where loans exceed 95% of property value, additional security in the form of a mortgage indemnity premium will be required. The FSA does not regulate mortgage business or general insurance business. Credit broker. Representations of which you may be considered to be on the above numbers. This advertisement has been issued and approved by John Charcol Ltd and The John Charcol Partnership Ltd both of which are regulated by the Financial Investment Authority. The FSA does not regulate mortgage business or general insurance business. Credit broker. Representations of which you may be considered to be on the above numbers. This advertisement has been issued and approved by John Charcol Ltd and The John Charcol Partnership Ltd both of which are regulated by the Financial Investment Authority. Head Office: 10-12 Great Queen Street, London WC2B 5DP. Tel: 0171 811 7000. Fax: 0171 811 7000.

F Cooper back in the black

Frederick Cooper, the coil coating, kitchenware and hardware group, yesterday reported a pre-tax profit for the first time in three years in what the company called a year of progress under new management. Geoff Gahan, the chairman, said that the company had been saved from bankruptcy by the conversion of its preferential share capital into ordinary shares in March. Again there is no dividend.

Care advances

Care UK, the outsourced healthcare company, yesterday announced it had lifted turnover from £27.6 million to £41.2 million for the year to September 30, and said that it had contracted future income in excess of £160 million. Pre-tax profit was up to £6.5 million, against a pre-tax loss of £4.9 million last year of £4.9 million. A final dividend of 1p (0.85p) brings the total to 1.5p (1.25p).

Field slides

Field Group, the packaging manufacturer, yesterday announced pre-tax profits of £10.5 million for the 26 weeks to October 4, down from £12 million for the corresponding 27-week period last year. Earnings per share fell to 12.5p (15.3p), but the interim dividend was lifted from 3.4p to 3.6p per share.

Jennings ahead

Jennings Brothers, the Lake District brewer and pub operator, lifted pre-tax profits before exceptional items by 53 per cent to £2.12 million in the year to September 27. Earnings per share reached 23.1p (20.8p) and a final dividend of 5.4p makes 8.4p (7.75p).

Critchley suffers

Critchley Group, a manufacturer of identification products and electrical components, reported pre-tax profits down 14 per cent to £3.5 million for the six months to September 30. The interim dividend is 5p (4.5p).

Belhaven bullish

Belhaven Brewery claimed yesterday that it was gaining market share from its bigger rivals. Group pre-tax profits rose by 14.3 per cent to £3.19 million and the interim dividend rises to 2.35p (2.1p).

Met Life to seek stock market conversion

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

THE demutualisation wave in America gained momentum yesterday with the announcement that Metropolitan Life, the second biggest American insurer by assets, is seeking a \$14 billion (£8.5 billion) flotation. Prudential Insurance of America, the top US insurer, said earlier this year that it is exploring a conversion into a quoted company in what would be the largest flotation in Wall Street history. John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance is considering similar plans. Met Life's announcement did not surprise analysts who have predicted a shake-up of

the global insurance sector for some time. This summer, the MONY Group of New York floated a \$300 million stake.

Met Life is expected to float at the end of 1999, if everything goes smoothly. Prudential is unlikely to come to market before then.

The demutualisation wave has been triggered by consolidation in the financial services sector where banking and insuring are increasingly being intertwined. US mutuals have noted the strong performance of most UK building societies and life companies after shedding their mutual status and floating on the stock market in London.

Congress is expected to lift laws that forbid the merger of bank holding companies and insurance holding companies. Last month, Citicorp and Travelers Group completed their \$50 billion merger in anticipation of a change in the law.

Robert Benmosche, the executive chairman of Met Life, said: "We believe that conversion to a stock company will best position Met Life both to deliver value to its policyholders and to be competitive in the pursuit of new growth opportunities."

Met Life has consulted Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse First Boston about the demutualisation plans. The move to float signals a growing confidence in America that the stock market will weather any short-term problems.

The announcement also stands in stark contrast to Goldman's decision to postpone its own flotation indefinitely. The investment bank had hoped to sell an initial 15 per cent stake this autumn.

The beneficiaries of the Met Life flotation are expected to be the 12 million policyholders who will be allocated all of the issued shares and executives at Met Life who would hope to be granted share options.

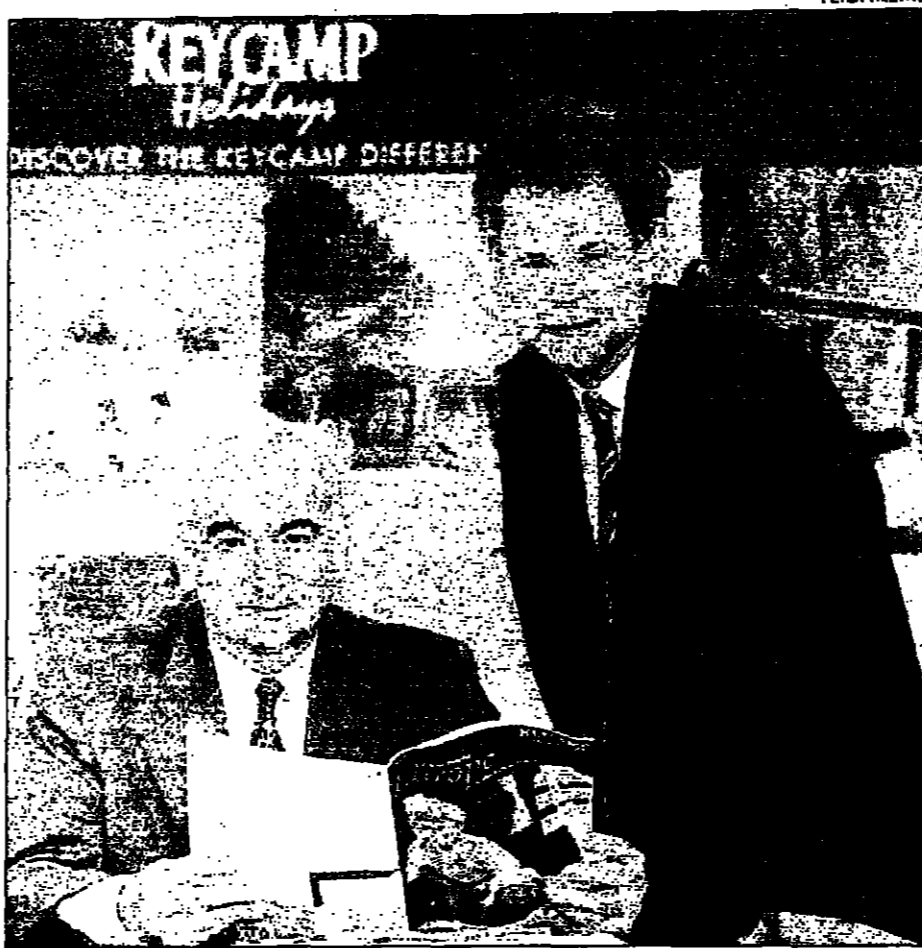
Margin pressures for Atkins

W.S. ATKINS, the construction consultancy that is hoping to buy Bovis, yesterday said that it was facing margin pressure in some areas of its business (Paul Durman writes).

Mike Jeffries, the chief executive, said that trading had been hit by recession worries and the tail-off of inward investment from South-East Asia. He said that the problems affected 5 to 10 per cent of Atkins's turnover, which was up 15 per cent to £200.9 million in the six months to September 30.

Atkins is involved in the design of road and rail schemes and in managing properties. Bovis, for which P&O is seeking about £350 million, will fill a perceived gap in construction management. A deal is expected soon.

Half-year operating profits rose 13 per cent to £9.5 million, and Atkins said that its underlying pre-tax profits rose 18 per cent to £15 million. The interim dividend rises 13 per cent to 3.05p a share.



Angus Crichton-Miller, left, Eurocamp chairman, and Richard Atkinson, chief executive

RJB is boosted by £1.4bn coal order

BY OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in RJB Mining yesterday rose 7p to 61½p as Britain's biggest coal producer unveiled a £1.4 billion order to supply Eastern Group with nearly 50 million tonnes to the year 2009.

RJB said that, under the contract, 28 million tonnes of coal, worth £800 million, will be supplied to 2003, with a further 21 million tonnes, worth £600 million, to 2009. The order is the biggest RJB has won since coal privatisation.

John Robinson, the RJB

chairman, said: "We are confident that this signals the first of a number of contracts which will secure our sales in the medium and longer term and define the size of our market through to 2003."

Jim Whelan, managing director of Eastern Power and Energy Trading, said: "RJB is an established and reliable supplier."

RJB is continuing negotiations with National Power and PowerGen over coal supply into the next century.

Eurocamp to sell inherited haul of villas

EUROCAMP, the campsite holiday operator, is to sell the 46 Mediterranean villas it inherited when it acquired the rival Keycamp in August (Fraser Nelson writes). The starting price for each is £500,000.

Eurocamp needs to cut £28 million of borrowing after buying Baldwin, Keycamp's parent, it sold Baldwin's head office and 20 restaurants for £6.9 million four weeks ago.

Eurocamp made pre-tax profits of £14 million in the year to September 30 (£11.2 million). A 4p final dividend makes 8.5p (7.75p).

FSA threat to Lloyd's jobs

BY ADAM JONES

REGULATORY staff at Lloyd's, the insurance market, are bracing themselves for job losses after the Government confirmed plans to make the new Financial Services Authority (FSA) its policeman.

The FSA issued a consultation document yesterday detailing its strategy for overseeing Lloyd's, which has traditionally been self-regulating.

Under the FSA plans it is likely that the Lloyd's regulatory department, which employs 160, will still be responsible for

many day-to-day compliance issues. However, a review of staffing will now commence, with job losses expected.

The FSA said it was likely to need 80 staff to carry out its work at Lloyd's, which implies that half the regulatory staff at Lloyd's could be cut.

Rugby sheds 400 staff in shake-up

UP TO 400 workers face redundancy at Rugby Group, the building materials company that yesterday gave warning that this year's pre-tax profits would fall short of expectations. The cuts will take place at the company's British joinery operations in Doncaster and Gloucester. Most of the job cuts will be made at the Doncaster site, which is also the group's head office. The company said that jobs would be created at other sites as part of the reorganisation. Management at Rugby Group said that it would begin consultation with unions today over the proposals.

The restructuring comes after last year's takeover of the joinery business of Boulton & Paul. Although the integration of the businesses had gone well, trading was affected by the loss of supplies to the merged Jewson/Harros chain, competition from cheaper imports and a continued shift in demand away from timber-framed windows towards PVC products. Rugby said its cement and plastic materials divisions were trading in line with expectations. The shares fell 7p to 81½p.

Marston's £8m round

MARSTON THOMPSON & EVERSHED, the brewer under siege from its Midlands rival, Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries, has acquired eight pubs — six of them in London — from Eldridge Pope for £8 million. The eight sites, six of which trade under the Bar Excellence brand, are to be converted to the Pitcher & Piano and Via Vita retail concepts. The move by Marston's effectively corks a snook at W&DB, which has declared itself unimpressed by the two brands. Last week W&DB launched a hostile £262 million bid for Marston's.

Aukett bounces back

AUKETT ASSOCIATES, the building design consultancy, yesterday reported its most profitable year since 1990 and its first dividend since 1992. Gerry Deighton, the chairman, said: "The order book for UK projects is at its highest level in recent years. Expectations from our European operations — remain high." Pre-tax profits were £623,000 for the year ended September 30, from £310,000 last time. Turnover was 54 per cent higher at £10 million and earnings per share were 0.79p, from 0.56p. The dividend is 0.15p.

Nord Anglia at £2.5m

NORD ANGLIA, the provider of education services, has reported "disappointing" performance by its language schools division, saying that the Asian crisis and sterling's strength had hit demand. The company said that it planned to reshape and slim down the division, which had losses of £650,000, against profits last year of £350,000. Group pre-tax profits for the year to August 31 crept up to £2.5 million (£2.4 million), on turnover of £48.1 million (£40.4 million). Earnings per share were 10.1p (11.53p). A 3p final dividend makes 4.5p (3p).

Fine Art warning

FINE ART DEVELOPMENTS, the home shopping, fund-raising and educational supplies group, said trade since mid-October had been very disappointing and that group sales were unlikely to exceed last year's. The shares fell 12½p to 110p as the group reported a £70,000 first-half pre-tax loss. Big provisions a year earlier led to a £12.43 million first-half pre-tax loss. Operating profits on continuing operations were £71.2 million (£3.2 million). Continuing operations' sales were £71.2 million (£69.2 million). The payout stays at 2.25p.

H Young sees growth

H YOUNG HOLDINGS, the distribution company, expects another year of growth and further acquisitions. Pre-tax profit was up 24 per cent at £5.28 million and turnover was 18 per cent higher at £68.77 million. Earnings per share were 15.8p (14.1p) and the final dividend is 3.5p, making a total for the year of 5p (4.6p). Strict control of overheads improved operating margins. In May, H Young bought Leeda, a distributor of fishing equipment. Powerline, a distributor of power supplies, and Metro Products, a distributor of car accessories.

Vickers confirms Ulstein purchase

BY ADAM JONES

VICKERS, the defence engineering group, confirmed yesterday that it is buying Ulstein, a Norwegian marine engineer, for £346 million, adding that it is in talks that could lead to further deals.

The Ulstein acquisition, financed by proceeds from the recent sale of Rolls-Royce Motor Cars, is designed to strengthen the Vickers Kamewa marine propulsion arm.

The purchase price includes the assumption of £42 million

of net debt but excludes Ulstein's shipbuilding division. Vickers is looking at other takeover opportunities in its defence and turbine components divisions, but Baron Buisson, chief executive, declined to comment on specifics.

Vickers was seen as a possible bid target after the Rolls sale, which left it with cash on its books, and after its tank business was excluded from a merger between Alvis and the defence business of GKN.

Huntingdon cuts 150

HUNTINGDON Life Sciences, the drug testing company recently saved by a £20 million cash injection, is shedding 150 staff to save £6 million a year (Paul Durman writes).

Most of the job losses will be among Huntingdon's 1,250

staff at Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire and at Eye in Suffolk. The group will take a £2 million charge to cover the cost of redundancies. Brian Cass, managing director, hopes that Huntingdon will return to breakeven in 12 to 18 months.

Bank	Bank	Bank	Bank
Days	Sales	Japan Yen	Bank
Australia \$	2.71	2.55	21.90
Austria Sch	20.68	18.02	0.653
Belgium Fr	80.87	58.91	0.994
Canada \$	2.849	2.652	3.345
Czech Kor	0.8735	0.8002	3.27
Cyprus Cyp £	11.22	10.53	11.88
Denmark Kr	6.82	6.2	29.41
East Mark	9.05	8.30	10.06
France Fr	2.86	2.67	242.50
Germany DM	2.80	2.718	14.17
Greece Dr	495	456	2.456
Hong Kong \$	15.81	12.40	81478
Iceland	129	109	1.707
Indonesia	1,094	1,084	49,222
Ireland P	1,190	1,074	1.707
Israel Sh	7.24	6.58	1.314
Italy Lit	2944	2707	

Notes for small denominations: banknotes only as supplied by Bankers Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

YOU KNOW YOUR BUSINESS. WE KNOW MILLIONS OF OTHERS.

Before you deal with another company, we'll make sure you're in good company. We're part of EULER, the global credit insurer. Using in-depth local knowledge, we can assess the trade risks for your business in any part of the world, then insure you against non-payment. Call 0171 860 8060 and talk to EULER Trade Indemnity. The partner for trading in a risky world.

Before you do business with anyone else it pays to do business with us.

EULER TRADE INDEMNITY

Lloyds Bank Mortgage Rate for Personal Customers

Lloyds Bank Mortgage Rate, Home Loan Rate, and Lloyds Bank Black Horse Mortgage Rate is 8.20%. These rates of interest apply with effect from 1st December 1998.

www.lloydsbank.co.uk

Lloyds Bank

Part of the Lloyds TSB Group

Lloyds Bank Plc, 71 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3BS

If perfection on the palate exists, this is it.

Ardbeg is now available at Oddie's and other discerning specialists.

Ardbeg

ON BALANCE, THE FINEST MALT IN THE WORLD

Prudential Standard Variable Rate Change.

Prudential Banking plc has reduced its Standard Variable Mortgage Rate by 0.5% to 8.2% with effect from Tuesday 1st December 1998 for both new and existing customers. For further information phone 0800 000 222 or contact your Prudential representative.

PRUDENTIAL

THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 1 1998

Amid all the...
things remain...
Almost every...
Morgan Grenfell...
the form of a...
to clear their...
Morgan Grenfell...
dependence...
solicitors...
Bank has...
of market...
as at Morgan...
not been a...
So Deutsche...
spend \$10 bil...
ready creat...
ness. Bankers...
that it does...
people recruit...
ation. So \$300...
an early Chri...
P&S and a...
ship and a...
on Wall Street...
Of course the...
go home emp...
German-Amer...
loring on...
fund restruct...
\$28,000 per...
This might...
them in al...
Roif Brewer...
said he would...
\$400 million...
what he descri...
breed" with...
The urban...
Breuer used...

Imper...
on to...

STANDARD

At I...
rat...
up...

DIRECT ACCT...
BUSINESS AC...
Miles

01-44999	7.00	1.00
02000-02999	7.25	1.25
03000-03999	7.50	1.50
04000-04999	7.75	1.75
05000-05999	8.00	2.00
06000-06999	8.25	2.25
07000-07999	8.50	2.50
08000-08999	8.75	2.75
09000-09999	9.00	3.00

Prudential Banking plc is a member of the Prudential Group of companies. Prudential Insurance Company of America is a member of the Prudential Group of companies. Prudential Insurance Company of America is a member of the Prudential Group of companies.

Best of breed test for Bankers



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Amid all the changes going on in the City, it is little reassurance that some things remain the same. Almost exactly ten years ago, Morgan Grenfell gave 450 staff a nasty early Christmas present in the form of a P45 and a black bag to clear their desks. Since then Morgan Grenfell has lost its independence, and its owner, Deutsche Bank, has spent many millions of marks trying to develop its own securities business. And, as at Morgan Grenfell, this has not been a great success.

So Deutsche has decided to spend \$10 billion buying an already created securities business, Bankers Trust. This means that it does not need many of the people recruited for its own operation. So 5,500 staff will be given an early Christmas present of a P45 and a black bag for a pink slip and a black bag if they are on Wall Street.

Of course these people will not go home empty handed. The new German-American edifice (following on from DaimlerChrysler) is setting aside \$1.2 billion to fund redundancies — or about \$218,000 per dispensable banker. This might seem generous, but then in almost the same breath Rolf Breuer, the Deutsche boss, said he would be setting aside a \$400 million bonus pool to pay what he described as the "best of breed" within the giant bank.

The urbane and educated Breuer used the English expres-

sion, which means it was not even a clumsy translation from the original German giving, as it does, the image of an unpleasant combination of Darwinism, capitalism and Crufts. For those fearing the spread of German banking's influence, it was also rather chilling.

Frankfurt appears to be trying to make itself Europe's — if not the world's — banker. The European Central Bank will be located there. Dresdner owns Kleinwort Benson and has been said to be looking at Lehman Brothers. Commerzbank has been building its own securities business, though it is also said to be looking at Lehman. WestLB bought Panmure Gordon, but it does not seem to know whether it wants to be a merchant bank or a travel agency.

All have been expanding their sphere of influence in such a way that recent figures from the Bank for International Settlements show that at the end of June, German banks are the second-largest lenders to Asia, extending only \$5 billion less to the troubled region than Japanese lenders. With the advent of the euro, German direct marketing are planning to launch 24-hour Europe-wide

banking services, exploiting the low return on capital that German banks need to deliver.

But hold on. Being able to outspend your rivals because of your low cost of capital. Is that not something we have heard before. It was the rallying cry of the Japanese banks and securities firms that expanded so rapidly in the 1980s. And look what happened to them. More knackers yard than best of breed.

Vertical playing field for power

Select citizens of our Home Counties will soon buy their electricity as well as drawing their water from French companies and commuting on French-run trains to city streets cleaned by French operators.

Their EU brothers on the Ile de France do not have the privilege of buying these utility services from British companies. Nor, for

that matter, do folk in the rest of France. Electricité de France (EdF) is a state monopoly as is SNCF, the rail network. Three private utility groups have the municipal water market sewn up.

Aside from chauvinism towards those who invented it, does the imbalance matter? Not according to successive trade secretaries. Peter Lilley did once huff about foreign state firms buying UK private companies, but little came of it. There is to be no resistance to merging UK defence contractors into combines under French state control, but more over form than substance.

If a business is fully regulated, like water, it can be argued that it does not matter who owns it. If it is competitive, as electricity is aimed to be, consumers are protected by market choices.

Reality is never so simple. EdF is following the fashion to cope with competition by integrating from fuel to plug. By buying London Electricity's 7 per cent of the

market, EdF protects the 5 per cent of supplies it exports to the UK, part of about 17 per cent of output that it can export because nuclear power has low short-term marginal costs, however high the total cost.

British Energy, the main UK nuclear group, was outbid by a group that has the deepest pockets and can take the full risk of any regulatory delay. EdF's advantages will become crucial in any bout of price competition.

More seriously, competition is not what it seems. UK generators such as National Power and PowerGen were forced to divest market share to favour new gas generators and must now sell remaining coal stations to prop up the UK mines so disadvantaged by the previous policy. Perhaps EdF will be a buyer, to divert attention from its nuclear imports.

By contrast, the incumbent need not worry too much about competition starting in France next year. Over there, the rules

will not be fixed against the local natural monopolist.

The London deal deserves to be given the closest scrutiny by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Unless Peter Mandelson changes his stance to put UK industry first, however, there may not be much point.

Shoring up the middle order

The non-executives of Barclays must feel like the England cricket selectors. Five years ago, when they wanted a chief executive, they looked at the pool of available talent in British banking and found it wanting. So they chose a radical solution and he did not work out. Now they are back surveying the banking market — but instead of one job to fill they have two. And the pool of talent has not improved dramatically.

The fact that Keith Oates — the Graeme Hick of English retailing — can actually be in the running to take one of these two vacant jobs is an indicator of the problems. Oates is not a banker, which could be both a plus and a minus these days. With the pace of technologi-

cal change destroying many of the truths on which banking was built, is it better to have grown up believing those truths, or is it easier to come at the business afresh? Can you better understand lending to companies with no tangible assets when you have spent all your life ensuring that loans are secured? Is selling mortgages in Scunthorpe a good grounding for deciding whether you invest in Russian bonds or not?

The Barclays board has also to consider recruiting someone who will boost morale, which cannot be high on Lombard Street. And on this point, they have to ask themselves whether peace and harmony at Barclays would be best served by recruiting someone who has spent the past few weeks trying to stab his boss in the back.

In La La land

WHILE shop assistants in Britain's stores drum their fingers waiting for the Christmas rush, their counterparts in America are being overrun. One reason, perhaps, is that discount offers are normal over there in the early part of the season, rather than being seen as a dire admission of failure. At least, British shoppers have no reason to be too envious of their American cousins. The latter appear to have nothing better to do with their money than queue to buy talking Teletubbies and Furbies.

Imperial fights EU ban on tobacco advertising

BY ROBERT COLE, CITY CORRESPONDENT

IMPERIAL TOBACCO, the cigarette company that owns the Lambert & Butler, Embassy and Golden Virginia brands, is challenging moves to outlaw advertising of its products in the EU.

Imperial believes that Brussels does not have the power to implement the plans — which last year embroiled the Government in controversy, particularly in relation to sponsorship of Formula One motor racing.

Imperial says that the EU authorities can only rule on matters affecting the operation of the single market. Moves to ban tobacco advertising, it

says, are being taken for public health reasons.

Gareth Davis, chief executive, said: "We are facing continuing regulatory pressure on our products, including the recent EU advertising ban directive, which we believe has a flawed legal base and which we are vigorously challenging through judicial review."

Imperial also complained yesterday that "penal" rates of UK taxation were creating difficulties in official sales of cigarettes in this country. Higher taxation means that a packet of 20 premium cigarettes costs about £3.50 in this country, 75

per cent more than in France and Belgium.

The tax differential, Mr Davis said, gave smugglers and bootleggers ample incentive to import tobacco. He believed that 7 to 8 per cent of cigarettes smoked in the UK were imported outside normal wholesale channels. That proportion included individuals' legal use of their duty-free allowances.

Imperial said that the size of the UK cigarette market appeared to have shrunk by 7 per cent in the past year. However, Mr Davis said that he thought that measured consumption was supplemented by bootleg imports replacing

onsale sales. He said: "Overall, cigarette consumption is at least static and may even be increasing."

Imperial — demerged from the Hanson group in 1996 — was reporting pre-tax profits up from £307 million to £325 million in the year to 26 September. The dividend is to be raised 9 per cent, to 23.4p.

Imperial bought the Van Nelle tobacco business from Sara Lee, the US food group, for £562 million during the year. That deal means that a third of Imperial's sales now come from outside the UK.

Tempus, page 30

Elementis slides on warning

SHARES of Elementis fell 21p to 75p yesterday as the chemicals company accompanied the disposal of its animal feed division with a profits warning (Fraser Nelson writes).

The company, formerly Harrison's & Crossfield, has now stripped itself down to being a pure chemicals manufacturer — but gave warning that its core markets have declined.

BOCM Pauls, the animal breeding and food company which had been part of Harrison's & Crossfield since 1896, has been sold for £60 million to a management team funded by Electra Fleming. The division made a £6 million loss last year on sales of £540 million.

Tempus, page 30

Rexam takes rival in £580m deal

BY MATTHEW BARBOUR

REXAM, the packaging group, is to expand in Europe with the £580 million takeover of PLM, its Swedish rival.

Rexam is set to pay \$5.13 billion (£380 million) cash for PLM, valuing the company at a 49 per cent premium to its share price over the past month. It is also taking on £200 million of debt at the Swedish group.

PLM is familiar territory to Rolf Björjesson, the Rexam chief executive, who was chief executive at the Swedish company between 1989 and 1996.

PLM specialises in the manufacture of cans, glass containers and refillable bottles for the catering industry.

Michael Hartnell, Rexam finance director, said the deal gave Rexam greater market

penetration and strengthened ties with leading customers such as Unilever and Nestlé.

"The deal will give Rexam global sales of £1.8 billion consumer packaging. It will be one of the top ten players in the worldwide packaging market and number three in the European canned beverage market," he said.

PLM's largest single shareholder, Industrivaerden, the Swedish investment company, has agreed to sell its 23 per cent stake in the company.

Rexam has negotiated a new £550 million borrowing facility to finance the deal. The company said that gearing, raised to 200 per cent by the deal, would be reduced by the sale of its industrial packaging division.

Low-key deal for GEC

GEC announced an overseas deal yesterday — but not the showstopper anticipated in some quarters (Adam Jones writes).

The UK defence electronics and telecommunications group is buying the medical equipment division of Elscint, the Israeli group, for \$295 million (£163 million) through its Picker International subsidiary. In the first half, the business made profits of \$3.3 million on sales of \$167 million.

A GEC spokesman refused to comment on speculation that it is in talks with Alcatel, the French telecoms group, that could lead to a £30 billion merger.

Business stands counted.

30% OFF

ICE REQUIRED

SALARY	NET MONTHLY PAY	NET MONTHLY PAY	NET MONTHLY PAY
£1 - £29,999	7.00	5.80	4.70
£30,000 - £39,999	7.05	5.84	4.73
£40,000 - £49,999	7.10	5.88	4.76
£50,000 - £59,999	7.15	5.92	4.79
£60,000+	7.20	5.96	4.82

In today's business markets you have to be confident and strong, just like the Direct Access Savings Account from Standard Life Bank. This money making account offers your business:

- Consistently competitive rates of interest
- No day to day charges
- The convenience of telephone banking
- No minimum deposit

No limit on the number of withdrawals
No notice required
And it works alongside your existing banking arrangements.

So now's the time to pick up the phone and make that call. It couldn't be simpler, just speak to your Financial Adviser or call us direct. Making the switch to Standard Life Bank will be one of the best business decisions you'll ever make.

BUSINESS LINE

0345 55 56 59

Saving has never been simpler

PHONE LINES OPEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM, SATURDAY 8AM-5PM

Terms and Conditions available on request. *Gross - the rate of interest paid without deduction of lower rate tax at eligible non-taxpayers. **Net - the rate quoted is illustrative of the current gross rate less lower rate tax at the current rate of 20%. The effect of compounding means that the monthly and yearly rates work out the same (rates are calculated to four decimal places although they are rounded to two decimal places for illustration). Rates may vary. Standard Life Bank Limited is a company registered in Scotland (number SC173685) Registered Office Standard Life House 30 Lothian Road Edinburgh EH1 2DH. Telephone calls will be monitored and recorded to help us improve customer service.

Britain and Europe must do their duty and cut rates

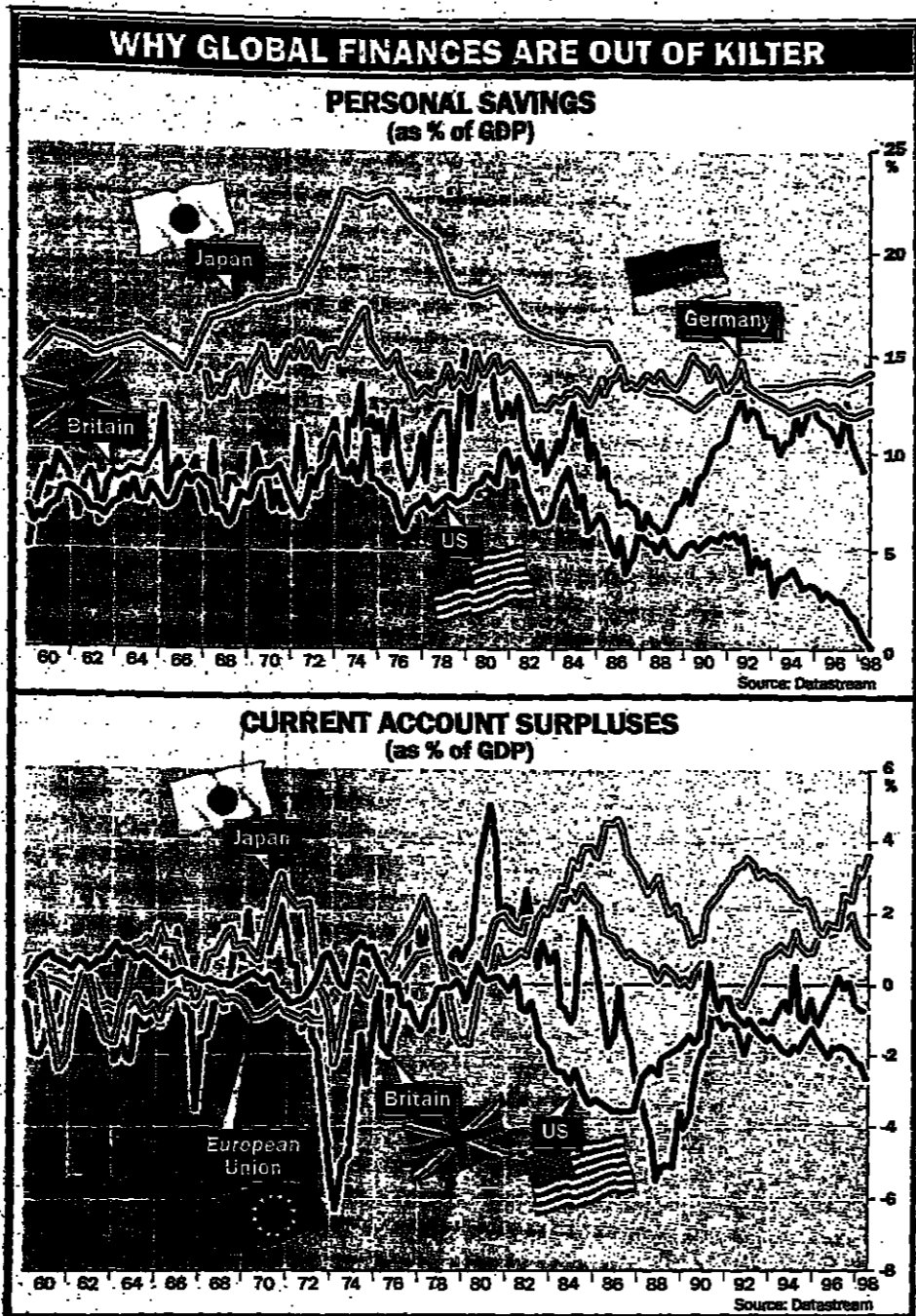
The Fed's lead must be followed before the US switches from spending to saving

Should the Bank of England cut interest rates again at the monthly meeting of the Monetary Policy Committee on Thursday week? I raise this question now because of the increasingly peculiar arguments about the conduct of monetary policy that I have been hearing in the City of London and the European economic establishment since the US Federal Reserve Board reduced its interest rates two weeks ago.

These arguments were well represented by a cover story in *The Economist* on November 14. The article, entitled "the world's forgotten danger", was published just before the Fed's policymaking meeting and demanded that Alan Greenspan and his colleagues should keep US interest rates on hold. The article's main contention was that the global economy — which only a few weeks ago was supposedly on the brink of a falling-price depression — was now threatened by an explosion of asset inflation. A decision by the Fed to reduce interest rates would, according to this argument, merely blow more hot air into the inflationary bubble on Wall Street and would further destabilise the global financial system, creating the conditions for an even more disastrous economic collapse when this bubble finally explodes.

Since this argument was presented last almost frantically seized by the Fed, stock markets have, of course, soared around the world. The fears about an inflationary asset bubble have accordingly intensified. Among the most important questions to be addressed next Thursday by the MPC — and a few weeks later by the European Central Bank's first policymaking meeting — will therefore be whether the financial arguments against a further monetary easing are valid; and even if they were valid in America, whether they would also apply in Britain and Euroland.

These questions are particularly relevant today in both Britain and the rest of Europe, because most of the normal economic indicators point unambiguously to a further reduction in rates. While the earlier exaggerated fears about a deep recession have subsided, output remains weak and businesses remain extremely nervous. Consumer sentiment in Britain seems to be picking up a bit. But even if there is a significant improvement in trading before Christmas, which I personally think is quite likely, this improvement will not be sufficient to prevent a significant economic slowdown and an unnecessary increase in un-



employment next year. In continental Europe, meanwhile, the prospects are a good deal worse. Many European companies and financial institutions, because of their slow bureaucratic decision-making (well known as long-termism), are only just beginning to appreciate the gravity of the economic crisis in Eastern Europe and Asia. Thus European business sentiment, production and investment are likely to continue weakening well into next year. Of course, the most important difference between British and continental conditions is simply the fact that Europe will go into next year's slowdown with an unemployment rate that is almost double Britain's. Given that European inflation is now close to zero and could fall into negative territory if economic conditions continue to weaken, the case for a monetary easing seems overwhelming, even on the extremely restrictive price stability mandate invented for itself by the ECB.

To make matters worse, hourly labour costs in Germany, Europe's core industrial economy, are, at present, 10 per cent higher than they are in America and 90 per cent higher than in Britain. This means that large German companies will continue to face overwhelming

incentives to expand their capacity abroad and to cut back on employment in Germany if the euro continues to rise against the dollar, the yen and the pound. In a nutshell, all of the main economic indicators that the European Central Bank will be assessing at its first policymaking meeting on December 20 will be pointing in the same direction: towards a reduction in interest rates to the euro from 3.3 per cent to 3 per cent or below.

Why, then, do so many analysts and investors expect both the Bank and the ECB to do nothing this month? One possible reason — that a cut in interest rates now might prove "embarrassing" if it had to be followed by an increase sometime next year — is thankfully no longer applicable to the Bank of England, given the MPC's new doctrine of "monetary activism" explained on this page on November 10. The Bank (along with the US Federal Reserve) now believes that frequent and early movements in interest rates, even if they entail occasional overshootings and sudden changes in direction, are less likely to destabilise the economy than the traditional reluctance of central bankers to admit mis-

calculations. This leaves only one plausible reason to refrain from cutting rates. This is the fear of asset price inflation with which we began. To see why these fears are groundless, three questions need to be asked. First, are there genuine dangers in an asset bubble? Secondly, if there are, would they be averted by tight monetary policy? The answer to the first question is certainly "yes". Stock market investors could be badly hurt some time in the year ahead — which is why I believe that at current prices the stock market may still be attractive for short-term speculators, but is a dangerous place for long-term investors.

But, given the absence of any serious appreciation in property and commodity prices, the dangers of overshooting equities to the economy at large are, at worst, only indirect. The main dangers lie in the relationship between soaring stock markets and the fundamental financial imbalance highlighted by *The Economist*, along with most other conventional prophets of doom. This imbalance is the collapse of personal savings in the US. For almost the first time in recorded history, personal saving has gone into negative territory in America — American consumers are now

Lowry Centre shows the Dome the art of getting sponsors



JASON NISSE

There can be few artists who hold such a favoured place in the national consciousness as L. S. Lowry. Apart from Picasso and Vincent van Gogh, there are few painters who have been immortalised in song — although one wonders what Lowry would have thought of Brian and Michael's *Matchstalk Men and Matchstalk Cats and Dogs* with the infamous lines: "Now he takes his brush and he waits/Outside them nearby gates." Only last month, *May Day*, a painting by Lowry, was sold for nearly £300,000 at auction, which might not seem a great deal compared with the Van Gogh that went for £44 million, but Lowry works are neither as rare nor as well executed as Van Gogh's.

So it is nice to know that, with all the fuss surrounding the funding of the Millennium Dome in Greenwich, the £30 million Lowry Centre in Salford, which is the National Millennium Project for the Arts, has secured all its funding. Indeed, today Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, is due to make a speech praising the project, and EDS, the Texas information technology group, is due to announce a £2 million sponsorship deal to help to fund the running of the centre, becoming the first sponsor to reveal its colours.

The Lowry Centre has the jump on the Dome for a particularly good reason — it was first thought of 12 years ago and since then people have been heaving away to make sure it works. The project is being built on 56 acres of derelict land at Salford Quays, the site close to the centre of Manchester that has undergone extensive regeneration over recent years. The Lowry will have two theatres — one of 1,600 seats, the other of 400, three art galleries and the Digital World Centre. This centre will be a showcase for applied digital technology, a sort of living museum with constantly evolving exhibits and a link with various technology companies as well as with the University of Salford.

EDS is one of five founder sponsors, and is splitting its largest between the Lowry and the digital centre. It will also have a five-year technology supply deal with the project, which will be on similar lines to its relationship with Derby County, the football club, where EDS is not only the shirt sponsor, but is also helping to develop its e-commerce, website and electronic ticketing systems.

Rob Wirszycki, marketing director at EDS, freely admits that were it not for the digital technology showcase, EDS would probably not have become involved in the Lowry project. "What the Lowry Centre will do is deliver people to the door," says Wirszycki. "Hopefully, they can then be tempted into the digital exhibition once they are there."

There is another reason why the Lowry was attractive to EDS. It is a large-scale millennium project that is outside London. Wirszycki says EDS did not want to get caught up in the mêlée in the capital and, anyway, most of EDS's business is in the regions. Having multibillion-pound contracts with the Inland Revenue,

league league better known to millions of football fans around the country as the Vauxhall Conference (as in the old joke about Walter Smith, the manager of Everton, who fains while going to buy a car. When he comes round he says: "Where am I?" "Vauxhall." "Oh, no," says Smith. "What happened to the first, second and third divisions?").

Vauxhall gave up sponsoring the Conference last season after 12 years as part of its move to specific car brand marketing. Since then the Football Association, along with Danny Rose, a consultant, has been trying to find a backer willing to pay £450,000 a year for the competition. The media coverage for this price is extensive, with regular mentions on the BBC, BSkyB and Teletext as well as in eight national and 180 regional newspapers.

It compares well with the £5 million a year AXA pays for the FA Cup or the £850,000 that the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race is hoping to achieve from any new sponsor.

The Conference came close to deals with two power companies — Rose would not tell me which ones although London Electricity has been mentioned heavily — but the deals fell apart. Now the Conference is offering a "discount" for anyone who wants to take over for the rest of this year.

With Kingstonian of the Conference playing Leyton Orient in the featured match in the FA Cup second round on Sky Sports this Sunday, there is no time like the present to sign up.



Lowry, who painted *The Regatta*, inspired a millennium project

big

on commitment...

...and long standing relationships.

Rowe & Maw

LAWYERS FOR BUSINESS

20 Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6HD

Telephone: 0171 248 4282

Bank error

WHEN HSBC announced the shameful decision to kill off the Midland Bank after almost 70 years in favour of its own dull initials, there was much talk of how careful they would be with the stationary, using up all that old Midland-headed notepaper before splashing out on any new stuff.

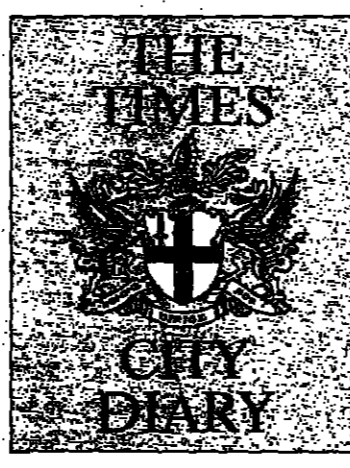
But it seems there was indeed a little carelessness in the paperwork last week, which meant the announcement had to be brought forward. The

news was to have been announced this morning, but several thousand letters informing account-holders of the name change were mistakenly sent out last week and arrived on Friday morning. "It was a disappointment — we simply had to go a little early," says my man at the Midland, as I will persist in calling my bank.

When it became obvious that the story was out, someone had to go into the HSBC board meeting then taking place and ask John Bond, the chairman, to agree to an early release to the Stock Exchange.

Table talk

THERE have been an unbelievable 1,000 new dining tables in the City since August, with the opening of restaurants such as the Coq d'Argent and One Lombard Street, according to the *Square Meal* guides published this week. (Declaration of interest: I am an occasional contributor.)



But there are signs — a shorter waiting list here, less champagne drunk there — that the bubble may be about to burst. A good thing, says the guide, if it persuades overpriced restaurants with slow and rude staff, the three main complaints, to smarten up their act. Quite right.

Sharpest comment comes from the entry for the relocated City Brasserie — "a case of not having to try too hard to maintain market share, otherwise known as the Savoy Grill syndrome". And no, I did not write it.

rand, worth about \$300, which is better than the usual magnum of champagne on offer at such events.

Bare facts

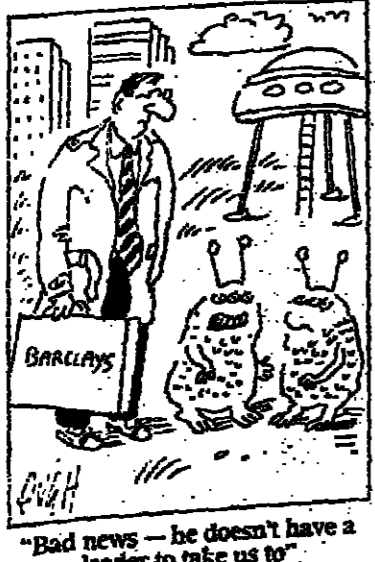
THERE is an extraordinary outpouring from Lord Bethell, the former Conservative MEP, in a letter from Stringfellow, the strip club, sorry, tableside dancing club in Covent Garden. "Where better can the businessman, alone in a strange city, relax and enjoy himself after a difficult day spent on insurance and banking, or otherwise up the financial sharp end?" his Lordship muses.

SPEAKING, unfortunately, of Lord Archer, I hear of an unusual reverse for *The Man Who Would Be Mayor*. He was approached the other day during one of his book-signings by a camera crew. Archer perked up even more on hearing that he had won one of the station's personality awards and agreed to pose, grinning, while the award was handed over.

That was when Live TV told Archer that he had come top in the station's list of the Ten Most Appalling People. "He was absolutely furious," says my informant.



Lord Archer won an award but was less than happy about it



"Bad news — he doesn't have a leader to take us to"



GALLERIES
Tommy's
 Alone glances
 at the Tate
 PAGE 35

THE TIMES
ARTS

THEATRE
 Mollie at
 the Riverside
 PAGE 36



History clear as mud

A few years ago Nanci Griffith appropriated a Truman Capote title, *Other Voices, Other Rooms*, for a collection of country-folk evergreens. Her new album *Other Voices, Too* forms another homespun version of the Great American Songbook, weaving together music by figures as disparate as Johnny Cash and the great grandfather of them all, Stephen Foster.

Trying to condense so many strands into a single concert is hard enough, especially with a long line of guest performers to accommodate in so short a time. What made her task at the Barbican even more difficult was yet another dubious sound mix — the Barbican is beginning to set a record in this particular field.

Griffith's intimate art is all about story-telling, smalltown short stories set to music. If the nuances are difficult to hear above the rest of her modestly proportioned band, then we might as well stay at home with a compact disc. Switching on a modest and rather superfluous light show every couple of songs is not much of a substitute.

She was generous enough to allow other singers to take the limelight at regular intervals. As a child she had listened to her parents' recordings of Odetta: now she stood to one side as the veteran singer led the way through *Kumbaya*. Her voice at least was potent enough not to be lost in the aural smog. Faces came and went at speed. Singer-songwriter Tom Russell took cen-

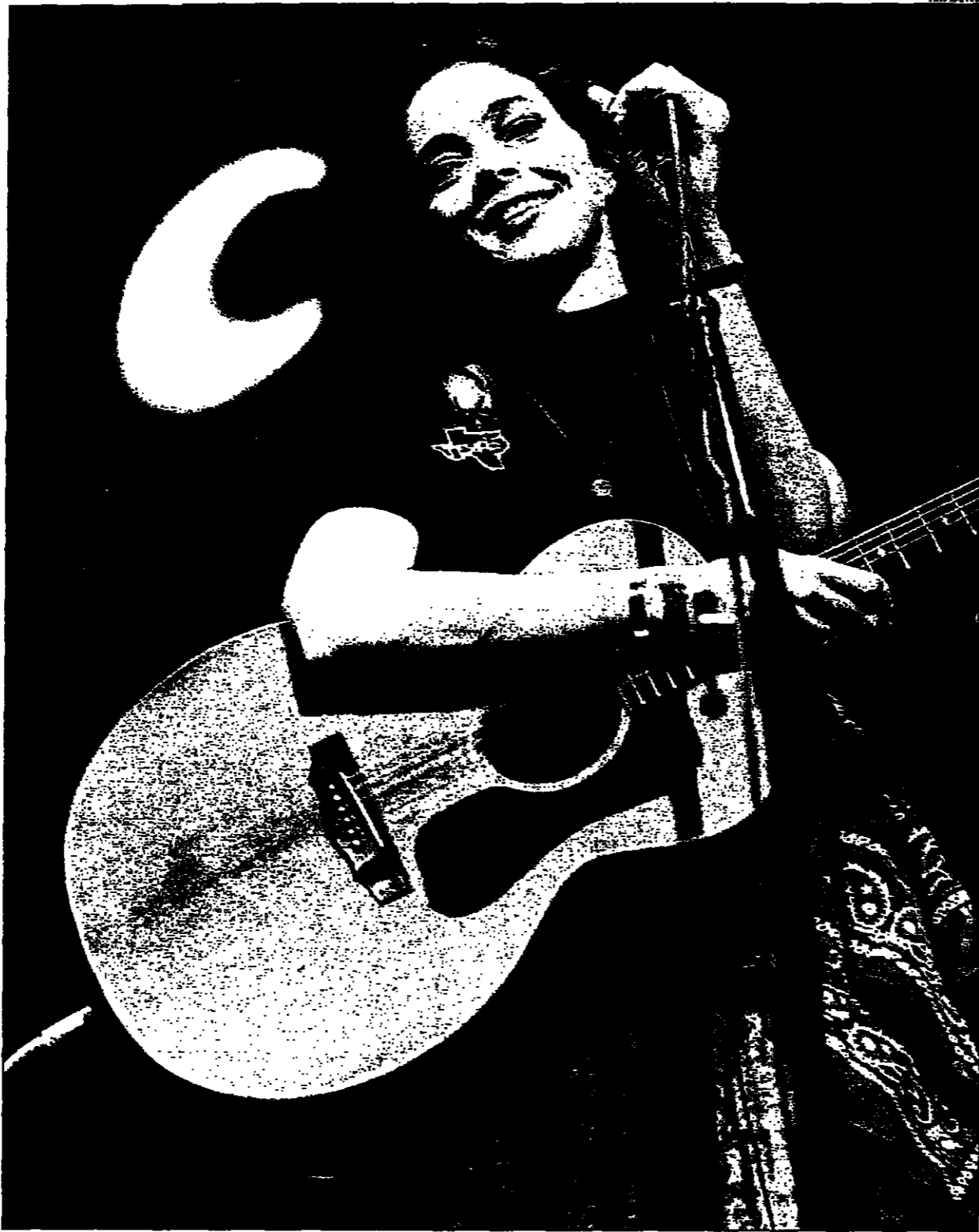
POP
Nanci Griffith
 Barbican

tre-stage on *Canadian Whiskey*. Griffith's former husband, Eric Taylor, injected some country-blues muscle on his segment.

Griffith's own range extends beyond Americana. Richard Thompson's *Wall of Death*, which opens her new album, went off at full throttle with the assistance of the veteran British folkie Clive Gregson. Dolores Keane's presence brought a reminder of the affinities with Ireland's folk tradition, while Griffith's fellow Texan Carolyn Hester chose to pay tribute to her British hosts with an odd choice of ballad celebrating the star-crossed lovers of the Abolition crisis. Wallis Simpson — not exactly your average sharecropper — makes a curious folk heroine to say the least.

Griffith herself did not shy away from taking up the old campaigning battle-cry on *I Had A Hammer*. Her own song, *It's a Hard Life Whenever You Go* fits snugly into the same canon. No mistaking which side she was on either in her traditionalist, hymn-like rendition of Foster's lament *Hard Times Come Again no More*. There was, she reminded us, a melancholy side to the man who wrote *Camptown Races*.

CLIVE DAVIS



Nanci Griffith's attempts to work through the Great American Songbook were hampered by a poor Barbican sound system

Wagner scores Down Under

OPERA

The production of Wagner's *Ring* just mounted in Adelaide by the State Opera of South Australia is, according to the state's arts minister, Diana Laidlaw, "the biggest cultural event ever staged in Australia in terms of the number of visitors". A bold claim, but one that reveals the city's justifiable pride at having snatched the prize of the continent's first ever *Ring* production (discounting a staging by a travelling troupe in 1913) from under the noses of rival companies (chiefly Opera Australia) and rival states (New South Wales and Victoria).

The South Australia Government backed it to the tune of several million dollars, calculating a net economic benefit of some A\$14 million. So it is all the more pleasing to report that the enterprise has been a thunderous success in both artistic and economic terms.

Having made the sensible decision to buy in a production, the State Opera commendably opted for one of the more challenging available, Pierre Strosser's 1994 Paris Châtelet staging, but 'cast it largely with Antipodean singers. The main exceptions were three key roles taken by Americans: Brunnhilde (Janis Martin), Siegfried (Edward Cook) and Sigmund (John Keyes).

Martin began tentatively, but blossomed in the final two operas with a display of tone and stamina that belied her 60-old years. Line and colour are not what they were, but this resourceful artist disguises such deficiencies with an illusionist's skill. Cook, shambling of gait, presented a naive, boyish Siegfried, underpowered at first but sturdier of tone in *Götterdämmerung*.

Pony-tailed and equally unlike a blond Teutonic hero, Keyes's Sigmund certainly lacked nothing in volume, yet was capable of lyrical outpouring of tone. John Wegner lacked the authority of the great Wotan but sang with

clear, idiomatic German. Initially inhibited by Strosser's low-key interpretation of the role, he grew in stature as the Wanderer. Among the rest, Elizabeth Campbell's Fricke and Waltraute, Malcolm Donnelly's Alberich, Peter Keller's Mime and Daniel Sumegi's Hagen were outstanding.

But the heroes were the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra which, over a four-month preparation period under Jeffrey Tate, honed its skills to world-class level. Tate's conducting, astutely balancing incidental detail and dramatic flow, was impeccably calibrated in pacing and structure. Some passages, such as the *Rheingold* Erdra scene and the Forest Murrurs, recalled the transcendent refinement of Goodall.

Strosser's severe production dispenses drastically with props. Stage pictures stripped of all non-essentials, and even what might be regarded as essentials (Rhine, dragons, Norns' rope), concentrate the attention on interplay of character. The love scenes are strictly non-tactile — a strategy that risks depriving the audience of emotional identification — but the pay-off is a scarily honest and searching exploration of character relationships.

A state-of-the-art acoustic-enhancement system (LARES) delivered exceptional clarity — London's major concert halls should investigate immediately. Other permanent benefits include a handsomely refurbished Festival Theatre, and an increase in the Adelaide SO's regular roster from 68 to 80. Flushed with success, Adelaide now looks set to mount its own *Ring* production.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Capital Trust Interest Rates
 Amended Investment and Savings Rates.
 Effective from 1st December, 1998.

Previous				New			
Capital Trust 30 (Annually)				Capital Trust 30 (Annually)			
Minimum Balance	Gross*	Gross Car**	Net†	Minimum Balance	Gross*	Gross Car**	Net†
£100,000 +	7.75%	7.50%	6.20%	£100,000 +	7.00%	6.75%	5.60%
£50,000	7.50%	7.25%	6.00%	£50,000	6.75%	6.50%	5.40%
£20,000	7.25%	7.00%	5.80%	£20,000	6.50%	6.25%	5.20%
£10,000	7.00%	6.75%	5.60%	£10,000	6.25%	6.00%	4.80%
£5,000	6.50%	6.25%	5.20%	£5,000	6.00%	5.75%	4.60%
£1,000	6.25%	6.00%	5.00%	£1,000	5.50%	5.25%	4.40%

For new account enquiries telephone 01538 392808 quoting code T10112

Capital Trust

BUILDING A LIBRARY
 A guide to the best available CDs,
 in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN'S THE MIKADO
 reviewed by Geoffrey Smith

Even during Arthur Sullivan's lifetime some critics thought *The Mikado* his masterpiece — to his annoyance, since he viewed his collaborations with W.S. Gilbert as trifles. No doubt this is why, in keeping with his usual Savoy Opera practice, Sullivan did not bother to write an overture, leaving it to an assistant. Of the six discs in our survey, one omits the overture and another substitutes a modern arrangement. All omit Gilbert's dialogue.

The oldest recording, by Isidore Godfrey and D'Oyly Carte in 1936, is full of commendable spirit, although the singing is variable. By contrast the singing in Malcolm Sargent's 1957 D'Oyly Carte version is generally good, but Sargent's interpretation is lamentably static. The most recent

D'Oyly Carte recording, conducted by John Pryce Jones in 1990, has an almost ruthless energy, as if trying to justify *The Mikado* to pop fans.

The remaining three versions are all worth hearing. Alexander Faris's 1962 recording with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, boasting a peerless Yum-Yum in Valerie Masterson. But the top recommendation goes to Charles Mackerras's 1992 *Mikado* (Telarc CD 80284, £14.99), an all-star affair with wonderful playing and singing, particularly Felicity Palmer's classic *Katisha*. What is more, by omitting the overture and a verse of Ko-Ko's "little list", it squeezes the opera on to one CD.

To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times Music Shop to FREEPOST, SCO081, Forbes, IV36 0BR or phone 0245 023 488; e-mail: music@the-times.co.uk
 Next Saturday on Radio 3: Haydn's Symphony No 100 in G

NOTICE OF VARIATION
 ALTERATION TO INTEREST RATE
 FOR SCOTTISH WIDOWS
 MASTERCARD CUSTOMERS

RBS Scottish Widows Cards Ltd announces that the standard variable APR will be increased from 15.9% to 16.9% with effect from 1 January 1999. This is equivalent to an increase in the monthly rate of interest from 1.244% to 1.316% per month.

SCOTTISH WIDOWS
 www.scottishwidows.co.uk
 RBS Scottish Widows Cards Ltd, 42 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YE.
 Registered in Scotland no. 164885

Snake charmer

WE HAVE heard far too little of Joseph Tal's music in this country, but a start was made with the first performance of his 80-minute chamber opera *The Garden* at the Queen Elizabeth Hall on Sunday, part of the month-long International Jewish Music Festival. Tal was born near Poznan in 1910 and emigrated to what was then Palestine in 1934. He has since been central to the musical life of Israel. His two full-scale operas, *Ashmedai* (1971) and *Massada 967* (1973), have been widely performed, and *The Garden* (1988) certainly deserves wider circulation.

The setting of Israel Eliraz's libretto, given here in a free, very singable translation by Gila Abrahamson, is *The Garden of Eden*. A middle-aged Adam (Darren Fox, tenor) and Eve (Diane Adheron, soprano) return and ponder what has been achieved with the knowledge that occasioned their expulsion, achievements as varied as Stalin and Marilyn Monroe, the Bomb and the Internet. Eve attempts to rescue the elderly Serpent (actor Timothy Davies), unsuccessfully. Adam, exhausted, wants

to stay, the discontented Eve to move on. Eventually, both leave, Eve newly pregnant. Better luck this time?

Tal's score is for six wind players, cello and two percussion. He writes gracefully for the voice, often accompanied by a single instrument and with the constant contrapuntal interest that would imply, but the lyricism, wit and paceness of his music easily conquer any whiff of the academic. There is life in atonality yet. The only possible problems with the piece are the characterisation of Eve as an air-headed libbertigibbet, and a false ending, a legitimate dramatic device but a perilous one. The ten minutes that follow seem a little detached.

Both problems may have had something to do with John Abudah's production for Thameside Opera, which made free with the stage directions, though nothing but praise. The instrumental ensemble from Trinity College played brightly for the conductor, George Badacsonyi.

RODNEY MILNES

mirror image
 Jonathan Miller on Reflection

16 September - 13 December 1998

Admission £5.50 (£3.50)

NATIONAL GALLERY



VISUAL ART: The Tate Gallery is showcasing both the fruits of Turner's Alpine travels, and the treasures of Britain's country houses. Richard Cork reports

Turner's peak performance

Crossing the Alps in Turner's day was a hazardous and time-consuming enterprise. It also required substantial funding to ensure that discomfort did not ruin the entire journey. In the summer of 1802, the 27-year-old Turner had never strayed outside Britain. So he must have been eager to accept an offer from Newbey Lawson, a wealthy country gentleman only 18 months his senior, to accompany him on an ambitious Alpine tour. The fruits of this momentous expedition, now assembled in an illuminating survey at the Tate Gallery, transformed Turner's vision. We are able to follow the keen-eyed artist, already at the apex of his profession, as he set down on paper his rapid, assured summaries of the views confronting him. Looking at these images is like gazing over Turner's shoulder as he strives to absorb and shape his responses.

The mood is quiet at first. Staring down on the expansive Isère valley, he emphasises the immensity of the flat terrain rather than the elusive, misty crags beyond. Grenoble provides him with the chance to linger, and include people lounging on river-boats in the foreground. The splashes of white gouache enlivening their clothes, as well as the ancient buildings in the distance, testify to the light and heat, and Turner's own high spirits. A restless and supremely energetic man, he thrived on the adrenalin rush of his continental venturing.

His reactions were supple. At the swiftest level, he smudges in a mountain's bulk near Voreppe with assured sweeps of black chalk in his sketchbook. But he is equally able, on larger sheets of loose paper, to delineate the full complexity of the Pic de l'Oeillette, a landmark rock formation in the Gorges du Guiers Mort. The amount of minute rock formation in the Gorges du Guiers Mort. The amount of minute rock formation in the Gorges du Guiers Mort. The amount of minute rock formation in the Gorges du Guiers Mort.

Some of these later showpieces are included in the exhibition, and they allow us to make fascinating comparisons between Turner's first impressions and his final, retrospective images. When he sketched Chamoni and Mont Blanc on the spot, no attempt was made to alleviate their harsh, wild grandeur. Boulders block the path ahead, bearing witness to a winter avalanche, and the mountainside in front of Mont Blanc's snowy heights is thrown into funereal shadow. But by the time Turner executed an elaborate version of the scene seven years later, it had become less menacing. Commissioned by his great patron Walter Fawkes, it shows Turner at his most accomplished. Although the boulders have become more prominent, a peasant girl and

browsing goats lessen the feeling of isolation, and the peaks behind blaze in the brilliance of high summer sunlight.

Turner's mood darkened on his original trip as he approached the most vertigo-inducing of Alpine chasms. He was aware that battles had recently been fought in the area during Napoleon's invasion of Italy. One scene in particular, Fort Roch in the Val d'Aosta, prompted him to imagine a struggle between opposing soldiers among its dizzy declivities. And a later watercolour, where armies clash on a narrow mountain pass, was exhibited at the Royal Academy with an extract from Turner's gloomy poem *The Fallacies of Hope*.

The further he penetrated the Alpine fastness, the more he appreciated humanity's frailty in the face of nature at its most awesome. The most moving expression of those darker emotions occurs when Turner encounters the celebrated and aptly named Devil's Bridge, near

ley posed for Reynolds in a suitably scarlet riding habit based, intriguingly, on her husband's regimental uniform. She looks poised and commanding, and the horse-whip clasped in her gloved hand seems ready for erotic mischief.

George Stubbs is seen at his finest, too, in an exceptionally wide painting of *Ginckrack on Newmarket Heath*. Borrowed from the sporting collection at Cottesbrooke Hall, it isolates at the centre a jockey wearing the colours of Viscount Bolingbroke. Looking pensive, the jockey seems arrested and almost spellbound. His mount awaits, defined in all its sweaty, tensile power by Stubbs, the unparalleled painter of horseflesh. But the stable-lad is depicted with an equal amount of sympathy and incisiveness.

British art in the 18th century forms the backbone of this tightly packed survey, ranging from Richard Wilson's rapturous oil study for a view of Wilton House at sunset to Johann Zoffany's theatrical portrait of the portly Earl Cowper, bolsterously lifting his hat in the hills above Florence. But the show is not confined to home-grown produce. Claude, whose art had such a profound influence both inside country houses and in the grounds beyond, is seen at his most calm and meditative in the lyrical *Landscape with Argus* lent by Holkham Hall.

Antwerp-born Jan Siberechts is represented here by a typically diligent panorama showing Longleat House from the south. A resplendent carriage drawn by six horses approaches, doubtless containing Thomas Thynne who commissioned the picture. It exudes the confidence of the prosperous landowning class, who built these monuments to their own magnificence and then furnished them with sumptuous works of art.

Thomas Howard, the 4th Earl of Arundel, was among the first and most discerning of these voracious collectors. He looks positively monarchical in Van Dyck's double portrait, where Arundel poses solemnly with his equally regal wife Alathia. The nearer we approach to the present day, the less distinguished these collectors become. Laura Knight's stiff portrait of the Duchess of Rutland with her menacing bulldog is no match for Reynolds's Lady Worsley. Lucian Freud's small, early head of Elizabeth Cavendish from Chatsworth is a penetrating and incisive image. But a nadir is reached with John Braith's execrable head of Lord Montagu de Beaulieu. He remembers that this crude, raw-meat portrait, executed largely with a palette-knife, took only two hours to complete. I am not surprised.

Turner in the Alps (sponsored by Lombard Odier & Cie) is at the Tate until Feb 14; Art of the Country House (sponsored by Aon Risk Services) until Feb 28

'The Alpine expedition of 1802 nourished the most disquieting side of Turner's imagination'

Andernatt. Recently rebuilt after its destruction during a battle in 1799, it still looks barely capable of supporting anyone rash enough to cross it. But Turner stood on this slender structure in order to make a vivid study of the Schöllenen Gorge. It served as the starting-point for a large 1804 watercolour, where pack-horses make their way along the constricted pathway leading through the gorge. Turner never forgot the vision of unfathomable, dream-like vastness dwarfing him here. In this respect, the Alpine expedition of 1802 nourished the most disquieting side of his imagination for the rest of a long, ceaselessly inventive career.

An epic exhibition could have been mounted to mark the 25th anniversary of the Historic Houses Association. Even in the oddly modest, two-room show staged elsewhere in the Tate Gallery, the richness of its art collections is still overwhelming. Joshua Reynolds was never more stylish and seductive than in his full-length portrait of Lady Worsley, lent by Harewood House. She became infamous in 1782 when enjoying an adulterous fling with her husband's fellow officer. Just before then, Lady Wors-



Awed by nature: Turner's epic Alpine travels — his first trip abroad — produced such powerful works as *The Passage of Mont St Gothard*

IF YOU find yourself lost in the Festival Hall this month, don't bother asking the security guard for directions. He won't answer you. And neither will the cleaning lady with the trolley bin, or the photographer crouching with his camera on the floor. Why? Because they are all sculptures by the American super-realist Duane Hanson, chosen because they resemble the sort of people who would be hanging around the South Bank.

Cast directly from the human form, these polyester resin and fibreglass works show fanatical attention to detail, from the lines on the face to the liver spots on the hand. They focus attention on the sort of people whom the public might not normally consider — the middle-aged lady with her tatty tweed coat, a weary old man sitting on a bench —

AROUND THE GALLERIES
evoking feelings of tenderness and concern.
The Ballroom, Festival Hall, London SE1. (0171-960 4242) from tomorrow until Jan 17.

THINK of a big shot in the world of photography, and an example of his or her work will probably be here. Silver and Syrup may be a compact show (it condenses the history of an art form from the solemn photogravure of a 19th-century landscape to a split-second exposure of a milk drop as it hits a plate), but it is as rich and exotic as its title suggests. It emphasises the intention of each artist through the use of a concise quotation. But it is the work which really speaks, from the glamorous theatrical-

ty of Richard Avedon's famous *Dovima With Elephants* to Gilles Perres's picture taken through the back window of a hearse, where faces swim in glassy reflections across the flowers.
Victoria and Albert Museum (0171-938 8500) until next August

COMBINING prints, photographs and sculptures, this is the first major exhibition of work by Helena Chadwick since her premature death two years ago. It is as curious as one would expect. Chadwick was a mistress of queasy juxtapositions. Raw meat glistens among gold silk, bright flowers burn amid the acid sheen of domestic cleaning fluid and minute human embryos curl inside Perspex pendants. This show confronts controversy head on, in its attempt to redefine the conventions of beauty.
Ferens Gallery, Hull (01482 613902) until Jan 17

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

CLAUDE LORRAIN
Drawings from the Collections of the British Museum & the Ashmolean Museum
Until 10 January 1999
Admission £1
Concessions 50p
Monday - Saturday 10-5
Sunday 12-6
0171-636 1554

SCIENCE & ETHICS
Lifestyle Drugs: Curse or Cure?
From Prozac and steroids to Viagra — are drugs the key to a perfect life?
Thursday 3 December 7.30pm at the Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle Street, W1
Nearest Tube: Piccadilly Circus/Green Park
Participants include:
Dr GRI Summels director of Science Policy, Europe at Pfizer Central Research
Rita Carter author of *Mapping the Mind*
Professor Susan Greenfield director of the Royal Institution
Dr Michael Fitzpatrick GP
Tickets/Information 0171 930 3647
£5/£5 ICA Members & concessions
Please book in advance through the ICA Box Office on the above telephone number or in person at the ICA, The Mall, London W1, open 12-4.30pm. A limited number of tickets will be available on the door at the Royal Institution
Sponsored by Sun Life Insurance Group
Media Sponsor: NEWSINTERNET

Tate Gallery
John Singer Sargent, *Lady Agnew of Leith* (1860) (lent by the National Gallery of Scotland)

A Victorian lady's beauty routine. First, have yourself painted by Sargent. That's it.

John Singer Sargent. An exhibition of portraits, landscapes, watercolours and drawings.
Tate Gallery, Millbank 15 October 1998-17 January 1999.
Nearest underground: Pimlico. Minds open from 10 am.
Information 0171-887 8008. www.tate.org.uk
Adults: £6 Concessions: £4. Free to Friends.
Advance tickets £7.60/£5 from First Call 0171-420 0055.
Sponsored by MORGAN STANLEY DEAN WITTER

* Terms and conditions apply. Free Call 0800 230 973 for full details. All information correct as at 1st December 1998 and applicable to residential customers in Local Call Area. ICA, ICA Members & Concessions. Prices and conditions subject to change. For quality of service purposes we may occasionally restrict or suspend our telephone calls to Cable & Wireless Call Centres.

LISTINGS

The RSC in Narnia land

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Mark Hargreave
LONDON
THE SNOW PALACE: Short run for James Suzman's production of Pam Gata's remarkable drama about the Polish writer Stanislaw...

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London
KILLING RASPUTIN: Musical by IG Heckel-Horrey & James McCormick telling the intertwining stories of the Romanov's strange heeler and his eventual killer...

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the latest movies
NEW RELEASES
IF ONLY (15): Wayward but endearing comedy fantasy about an actor granted another chance to succeed with his girlfriend...

ARTS Can't tell talk from mutter

THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston sits through Beckett's Molloy at the Riverside Studios and loses all track of punctuation

The light falls upon a perfect circle of clean, perhaps washed, not to say laundered gravel, falling equally upon, towards one side of it, 14 or maybe 15 sponged, perhaps scrubbed, not to say scoured, pebbles on to which soon step the oxblood-polished boots of Conor Lovett, playing Beckett's maundering, meandering derelict, Molloy.



Conor Lovett as the derelict Molloy: 60 minutes of monologue that reduced the reviewer to counting pebbles

CONCERTS: Radical sounds at the American Pioneers festival at the Barbican; the Hallé takes a chance at home

Many 20th-century composers have wanted to create a new music, but few took so literally Harry Partch's radical goal to "make less poor the pathetic and impoverished language of tone". Partch (1901-74) transformed the resources themselves by creating his own instruments...

The DIY wild-child own music, allowing room for only three Partch works. The comparison does not favour Partch's music. Her original talent is obvious in these songs, set with oboe, piano and percussion and sung beautifully by Cathryn Wynne-Rogers...

Risky enterprise An unfamiliar work, an unknown conductor, an uncelebrated soloist: any one of these is a risky item in the presently precarious Hallé Orchestra economy. So why it presented a concert featuring all three at once is beyond ordinary comprehension...

OPERA & BALLET

CONYNGHAM 0171 382 8200 (Opera) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Tom 7.30 THE BARBER OF SEVILLE Tom 7.30 BOSS GOODWIN

THEATRES

CONYNGHAM 0171 382 1771 (0171) 344 4444 The National Theatre of Great Britain LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

THEATRES

ADRIAN 02 2463 1141 (0171) 344 4444 THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF GREAT BRITAIN LOVE UPON THE THROAT

ALAN BENNETT'S SUPERB PLAY TWO HOURS OF COMIC BLISS I found myself helpless and hopeless with laughter... THE PETER HALL COMPANY in KAFKA'S DICK Directed by PETER HALL

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

**With our
backing
there's more to**

Pensions Lawyers

Take a look at all the points listed here and tick the ones your current firm can offer you. If you are an ambitious and dedicated lawyer, and would like to tick them all, you should consider joining Freshfields Employment, Pensions and Benefits practice.

In this practice, you will find a group of supportive and dedicated colleagues who work collectively to deliver a high calibre service at the very forefront of their field.

With an impressive client base of our own, which accounts for a refreshingly large proportion of our work, we offer lawyers the scope to build their reputations within a strong team ethic. As part of one of the world's largest and most successful law firms, there is an increasingly international dimension to our work. As we continue to grow at a healthy rate, we need articulate, energetic and ambitious Pensions Lawyers to join our team.

Senior Pensions Lawyer

With at least four years' post qualification experience, you will be an established pensions specialist, looking for the broader challenges and increased responsibilities we can offer.

Junior Pensions Lawyer

With around one to two years' post qualification experience, including some exposure to pensions law, you will have the motivation and determination to make your mark in pensions within a major international firm.

To apply please send a full CV to Jonathan Hill at Freshfields, 65 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1HS, or e-mail him at jhill@freshfields.com Alternatively, contact Jonathan Brenner on 0171 523 3838 or write to him at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL, e-mail: jonathan.brenner@zmbgroup.com

We believe pensions law is all about the future, so that is where we are taking it.

- A refreshing integrated approach.**
- A genuine team-oriented environment.**
- Access to a broad client base.**
- A high proportion of work for direct clients.**
- Experienced, supportive colleagues.**
- An unqualified commitment to training.**
- Full time professional support lawyer.**
- A well-developed reputation that you can benefit from.**
- Involvement at the cutting edge of pensions law.**



ALLEN & OVERY

*Avvocati
esperti in diritto
finanziario.*

FINANCE LAWYERS - ITALY

Allen & Overy's commitment to strategic global expansion has never been stronger. Our international presence never greater. We continue to embrace opportunities in our traditional markets such as South East Asia and Central and Eastern Europe. Most recently we've turned our attention to the European Union.

In January this year we merged with leading Italian law firm Brosio, Casati e Associati enabling us to form unrivalled teams of English, Italian and US lawyers. Our combined practice offers our clients unique expertise in mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, project finance, EU law and a broad range of other international corporate areas.

Our Milan office seeks finance lawyers to join our flourishing banking and finance practice, which advises on all kinds of bank financing, including leveraged buy-outs, securitisations, structured lending and project finance. You will need to be an English qualified lawyer with at least one year's finance experience and to be fluent in Italian.

And finally you will need to share our commitment to growth. To be a global player. To be the best.



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abraham or Gavin Sharpe on 0171 405 6082 (0171 485 4888 evenings/weekends), or write to them at QD Legal, Email: g.abraham@qdggroup.co.uk gsharpe@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row,
London WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 6082
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394

London
Birmingham
Leeds
Manchester
Hong Kong
Paris

New York
Sydney
Melbourne
The Netherlands
Toronto
Vancouver



WYSIWYG

And what you get is...

A boutique City firm with a strong corporate client base.

Individualistic. Entrepreneurial. International. Successful.

We punch above our weight. A surprising number of international household name corporates choose to work with us. Maybe this is because of the close ties we foster between them and our lawyers. Or because we answer the questions clients haven't even thought of asking.

This is an opportunity to further develop our international tax practice. The role requires participation as a key member of our corporate teams in cross border transactions, reorganisations, financings, listings and start ups. Innovative thinking and imagination are essential, as is a pre-disposition to work with our international client base. We are particularly strong in the US, France and the Middle East.

You may be a partner at a well respected practice or a senior solicitor, with a minimum of five years' ppe, or perhaps an accountant. You will be skilled in international corporate tax work and may have some foreign language skills. You will enjoy being in the front line and have the vision, energy and drive to build upon and develop our established tax practice.

Warner Cranston is a real alternative, both for our people and for our clients.

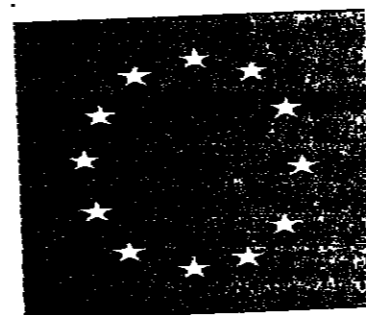
Warner Cranston

TAX PARTNER

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abraham or Gavin Sharpe on 0171 405 6082 (0171 485 4888 evenings/weekends), or write to them at QD Legal, Email: g.abraham@qdggroup.co.uk gsharpe@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row,
London
WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 6082
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394

London
Birmingham
Leeds
Manchester
Hong Kong
Paris



Public Procurement

Brussels

Our client is a successful major City law firm with strong international links. Recognised for its innovation. Respected for its client service focus. And pre-eminent in its core areas. A true leader.

The Brussels practice advises on all major aspects of EC law. It is particularly strong in public procurement and its clients include a range of public sector entities as well as European governments.

An individual is sought to join the European team in Brussels. Our client intends a radical expansion of its procurement practice into the private sector. It will be a ground breaking move both for the firm as well as the procurement market.

You will be a UK or other European qualified lawyer in a top law firm or leading European corporate, or a non lawyer with highly relevant experience. You will have extensive procurement experience and the commercial drive and vision to realise this opportunity. The successful individual will be rewarded both financially and in terms of career development. Immediate partnership, if appropriate, will be offered.

This is a unique opportunity to play a major role in creating a European centre of excellence in procurement, building on a currently unrivalled market position. That is one of the reasons why our client is successful. It recognises the opportunities before its competitors realise they exist.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Gavin Sharpe or Stephen Rodway on 0171 405 6082 (0171 794 8188 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Legal or Charles Simon-Thomson on (33) 1 45 74 11 99 (fax: (33) 1 45 74 94 32) at Mathomier in Paris. Email: gsharpe@qdggroup.co.uk rodway@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row
London
WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 6082
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394
Web: www.qdggroup.com

London
Birmingham
Leeds
Manchester
Hong Kong
Paris

New York
Sydney
Melbourne
The Netherlands
Toronto
Vancouver

TO ADVERTISE CALL 0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX: 0171 782 7899

LEGAL COUNSEL

Uxbridge £Competitive Salary + Benefits



Burger King's success continues. We have an unrivalled reputation as the source of the world's preferred hamburger, The Whopper. Part of the Diageo Group, Burger King operates more than 10,000 restaurants in 53 countries throughout the world.

There are ongoing and new ambitious plans for expansion in the UK and overseas, resulting in a continuous flow of interesting and varied work in our legal department.

Based at our head office in Uxbridge, you will report to the Vice President, Legal. You will be involved in complex negotiations with particular emphasis on the UK and Ireland, but also with other countries in Europe and the Middle East.

lawyers on ancillary areas such as leases. The role carries close involvement in the franchising process and its commercial implications.

Your experience will be company/commercial law, gained within a leading law firm or a high quality in-house department.

In the first instance, please contact, in complete confidence, Anthony Gregg or Zofia Robinski on 0171 405 0151. Alternatively, please send a full CV, including the details of your current remuneration, to them at HW In-House Legal, High Holborn House, 52-54 High Holborn, London WC1V 6RL. Fax: 0171 831 6498; e-mails: tony.gregg@hwgroup.com or zofia.robinski@hwgroup.com internet: www.hwgroup.com



BIRMINGHAM • EDINBURGH • LEEDS • LONDON • MANCHESTER



Partner Designate

London

Our client is a leading international accounting firm, with a strong private client specialism, advising high net worth individuals on wealth protection, both offshore and onshore.

Due to an increasing level of fee-earning activity, our client seeks to make an additional senior appointment in its City office. Situated within the Trusts and Estates Department, the role will focus predominantly on inheritance tax planning, particularly in relation to UK-domiciled individuals.

The successful individual will be an excellent technical lawyer with proven ability in trusts, wills, estates and inheritance tax planning. Interpersonal skills are equally crucial, and persuasive communication skills, together with a proactive attitude and ability to attract work, are a pre-requisite.

This role presents a first class opportunity for a talented individual who is either a partner, or on track for partnership, but frustrated by an ethos which prevents you from enhancing your practice development skills further.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Lacey or Kate Sutcliffe on 0171 405 6062 (0171 780 6700 ext 110) or write to them at QD In-House Legal.

QD In-House Legal 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH Tel: 0171 405 6062 Confidential Fax: 0171 831 6394 Web: www.qdgroup.com

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD In-House Legal, and any direct or indirect enquiries will be sent to them.

London Birmingham Leeds Manchester Hong Kong Paris New York Sydney Melbourne The Netherlands Toronto Vancouver



Industry & private practice

Directory researchers

We are now recruiting the new research team for our new 3 Chambers Guide. We are looking for qualified lawyers with an interest in researching and writing about the legal profession.

You may have decided that practising the law is not for you. But at the same time, you may be reluctant to sever your links with the profession.

Taking to people is a key part of the job. You need to assess what people are telling you and build on a true picture of a firm's reputation.

Our research team may suit you. Joining our research team may suit you. You will be given responsibility for your own sections, from researching them to writing them up for publication.

In order to do this, you should be able to synthesise huge amounts of information. The research starts in January and will continue to July. Long and short contracts are available. Our researchers find this opportunity available and often use it as a stepping stone to their future careers - in publishing or legal marketing.

To discuss the opportunities available, please call me direct on 0171 778 1624 for a confidential chat, or send me your CV.

Rena SenGupta, Editor

Our directory is available at £45 from Biblos. Tel: 01-403 710971.

Industry

Sonya Rayner, Morwenna Lewis, Deborah Kurman, Stuart Morton

Commercial assistant Central London Lawyer with approx 3-4 years' exp to join small legal department of international services company and handle contract drafting, employment law and some on sec duties.

First in-house lawyer City Lawyer with c. 10 years' post qualification experience for successful IT company. Workload includes commercial contracts, some property and employment. Knowledge of IT law helpful but not essential.

Sole lawyer West Midlands Solicitor with approx 10 yrs' exp to join est manufacturing plc as sole lawyer. Work consists of day-to-day commercial legal issues, but knowledge of M&A an advantage. Exc. salary.

Partnership Positions London & Overseas We have been assisting partners seeking a career move for 25 years and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Corporate partner Technology sector Highly profitable City practice, a leader in IT/telecoms, seeks partner to service and develop mergers and acquisitions/general corporate work from technology clients.

Corporate tax City Expanding team at top national firm seeks tax solicitor with around 3-6 years' exp to handle consultancy work for a prestigious client base. Excellent partnership prospects.

Employment partner West End Large West End firm seeks senior solicitor/partner to take on employment work from partner wishing to concentrate on other areas. New role with real potential.

Oil lawyer London Solicitor with upstream oil experience to join legal department of European exploration company. Good company/commercial experience also considered.

European advisor South East Lawyer with c. 10 years' exp for senior role involving business acquisitions and commercial contracts with international services company. Excellent remuneration.

European counsel Berkshire New role with well-known hi-tech company for lawyer, min 5 years' exp gained in-house, to give legal advice to pan-European customers. Must have a first-rate comm b/ground incl IP, TM law, and have exp of international transactions.

Corporate London Overseas secondments and high profile cross-border M & A and venture capital transactions offered to 1-3 year qualified solicitor by leading international firm.

IT partner City Partner/team for impressive, expanding firm where IT is a core practice area. Work includes advising on outsourcing on a global scale and negotiating full range of IT agreements.

Commercial litigation US Firm Internationally acclaimed litigation practice seeks City trained 1-3 years qualified solicitor for ADR, arbitration and litigation in English and US courts. Premium salary.

IP/IT Surrey Major practice is seeking to add a 3-4 yrs' exp solicitor to quality team. Capitalised includes trademarks, patents, confidentiality, passing off and general commercial contracts.

Saville House, 23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL Tel: 0171 606 8844 Fax: 0171 600 1793 e-mail: info@chambersrecruitment.co.uk



PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR

Reporting to the Solicitor to the Council, you will be responsible for developing a client focused service in a range of legal services, including litigation and contractual work.

Experience of advising local authority members and officers on complex education legal issues is essential as is experience of litigation and advocacy.

Experience of managing professional staff is essential. You must be qualified to practise in England as either a solicitor or barrister.

A full relocation package is available where appropriate. Luton is a thriving regional centre with excellent local shopping facilities and a varied programme of cultural, social and sporting opportunities.

For further details and to discuss the role informally please call Richard Stevens, Solicitor to the Council, on (01582) 546620.

For further details contact the Human Resource Division, Apex House, 30 - 34 Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD. Telephone (01582) 546621 or Answerphone (01582) 738307, quoting Ref. CL5949. Closing date: 18.12.98.

This is a new post for someone with good motivational skills to head up our litigation team.

Reporting to the Solicitor to the Council, you will be responsible for developing a client focused service in a range of legal services, including litigation and contractual work.

Experience of advising local authority members and officers on complex education legal issues is essential as is experience of litigation and advocacy.

Experience of managing professional staff is essential. You must be qualified to practise in England as either a solicitor or barrister.

A full relocation package is available where appropriate. Luton is a thriving regional centre with excellent local shopping facilities and a varied programme of cultural, social and sporting opportunities.

For further details and to discuss the role informally please call Richard Stevens, Solicitor to the Council, on (01582) 546620.

For further details contact the Human Resource Division, Apex House, 30 - 34 Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD. Telephone (01582) 546621 or Answerphone (01582) 738307, quoting Ref. CL5949. Closing date: 18.12.98.



TIME FOR A CHANGE

CAPITAL MARKETS To £49,000 You do not need capital markets experience to join this top 5 City firm's world-class team, just 1-3 years' exp in corporate or finance will do. The role will not be run of the mill capital markets either; it will take in high yield debt, project finance and major international equity clients. Ref T40728

CORPORATE US FIRM To £120,000 US-qualified corporate lawyers will know the top US firm has an outstanding reputation that will ensure a major role in the London market. If you bring your experience, which could be in corporate, tax or insolvency, to help the firm fulfil its potential, the rewards will be huge. Ref T61093

TAX US FIRM To £52,000 The appeal of this leading US firm in London is considerable for a corporate tax lawyer with 0-3 years' exp; it offers high-quality and varied international work, including M&A, structured finance, IT/ITelecoms, dispute resolution and property finance, as well as top pay and prospects. Ref T60767

EMPLOYMENT To £43,000 The employment specialist with 0-2 years' exp in both contentious and non-contentious work who joins this top medium-sized City firm will not lack for chances to win new and progress on high-profile and respectable matters. Some pension or employee benefits knowledge is ideal. Ref T61100

ENTERTAINMENT To £39,000 The job should make you feel like dancing - the opportunity to join a West End firm to specialise in music-related work, such as royalties and contract issues, and in time go top of the legal pops. Some experience is important, even though you only need to show 0-1 years' exp. Ref T60494

ARBITRATION To £75,000 As the trend towards arbitration gathers pace, there are excellent opportunities for lawyers with 2-7 years' experience of arbitration and commercial litigation. A few are as good as the London office of this top US firm, which is an international leader in the field and will make you one too. Ref T19444

SENIOR MATRIMONIAL To £125,000 A senior matrimonial lawyer looking to take your career to new heights need look no further than this exceptional and high-profile London firm, which is one of the very best in the field. It is an attractive place to take your following as the move will benefit you and your clients. Ref T19328

PROPERTY To £40,000 Join the fun as this leading City firm embarks on a major expansion phase and already good prospects become even better. Much in the news for all the right reasons, this friendliest of firms is ideal for highly commercial property lawyers with c.1 years' exp keen to make their mark. Ref T46363

INSOLVENCY To £65,000 This leading City firm is superbly placed for the growth in insolvency work that the economic slowdown may bring, ensuring that an insolvency specialist with 3-5 years' exp in both contentious and non-contentious work will gain the experience needed to further develop their career. Ref T48038

IT/IP To £70,000 A firm that rewards on performance, that is a leader in IT/IP work and that has a support system of the highest quality - what more could an IT/IP lawyer with 1-5 years' exp need to take your career forward and enjoy life at the same time. Ref T47338

CONSTRUCTION To £50,000 Whether your 1-4 years' construction experience is contentious or non-contentious, you will find this top 10 City firm an exciting place to be. It has an international construction practice that ranks with the best and will give you every chance to build your knowledge and reputation. Ref T19515

SECURITISATION To £75,000 This is an exciting opportunity for a senior securitisation lawyer to join the most international of City firms to build up a practice in your area. The firm has a very promising client base as well as the strong desire to make the project succeed. And the reward won't just be satisfaction. Ref T34139

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Tim Marshall, Gavin Stange or Sarah David, qualified lawyers on 0171 405 6062 (15:00-18:00) or 0171 780 6700 (evening/evenings) or write to them at QD Legal email: tim@qdgroup.co.uk gavin@qdgroup.co.uk sarah@qdgroup.co.uk

QD Legal 37-41 Bedford Row London WC1R 4JH Tel: 0171 405 6062 Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394 Web: www.qdgroup.com

London Birmingham Leeds Manchester Hong Kong Paris New York Sydney Melbourne The Netherlands Toronto Vancouver



In-House • London • Reading

INTERNET London & Leeds Two exciting new roles for financial lawyers in expanding areas. Widerange of Commercial, IT & new media issues. London based role would suit a 4-8yr exp (to £50k) and Herts role suit c3-5yr exp.

BANKING / FINANCE London Top international banks banking/finance lawyer to join main specialist. Working closely with the treasury team. Broad experience and adaptability are key.

LIFE / PENSIONS To £48k Herts Specialist life & pensions lawyer sought to join progressive life company in key role as main specialist lawyer. Candidates should have a minimum of 2 yrs exp.

COMPLIANCE / CO SEC Head of Compliance/Co Sec/CO Sec Solicitor to the ability to deal with all aspects of compliance. Must be able to advise on Co Sec & provide all relevant legal advice.

SWITZERLAND Commercial IP lawyer sought to join top health/care company. Broad commercial work includes licensing, EC, distribution, R&D agreements etc. Languages a plus.

PARIS Adaptable commercial lawyer sought to join multinational to negotiate major contracts/projects within int'l team. Some French. Spoken French required.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Surrey Two roles with leading research based company. Broad based commercial IP roles include advising on R&D, JV, technology transfer, IP licensing etc.

OIL / GAS CO London Adaptable custom specialist sought to join world leading company, initial posting with UK retail distribution operations. Structured career development.

ENVIRONMENTAL South East Vacancy for experienced Environmental specialist to develop new role in popular medium sized City firm. Working closely with the property/construction departments. Excellent salary and benefits. Private practice experience essential.

PATENTS Entrepreneurial team with growing reputation in IP/IT/ITelecom fields offers exciting opportunity for a senior patent lawyer with some following/clients willing to join dynamic profitable department. Good prospects.

EC/COMPETITION Brussels Brand new vacancy in Brussels office of major City firm for top calibre EC/competition lawyer 2-4 yrs exp. Experience gained in private practice in a top London/ provincial firm essential. Excellent back-up and lots of opportunities to use language skills.

IP LITIGATION First class position for high calibre junior lawyer in the upstart litigation team of a dynamic hi-tech practice. The firm offers front line involvement, handling a contentious suit IP workload. Enormous client base.

CO/CO - MEDIA FIRM This major City firm is expanding its IP/IT/ITelecom Group to include a full range of domestic clients for government, media and construction companies, including non-IP related projects. Project finance experience is required but a PP background is not essential.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION Friendly Holborn firm with excellent reputation in the litigation field requires an assistant with first class commercial litigation experience in Central London. An ambitious, innovative lawyer to specialise in lots of hands on experience.

READING Commercial Property Major residential/development practice seeks 2-3 bright and enthusiastic lawyers (NQ-4 yrs exp) to join/continue and help expanding Commercial Property department. Both positions offer the opportunity to undertake a range of commercial property work, including development work for a number of major clients, as well as some planning work if desired. Superb quality of life move offering excellent career prospects.

READING Excellent opening for I.T. lawyer with at least 3 yrs exp (up to Partner level) to join thriving I.T. department of progressive fast-expanding firm. Superb salary package including excellent benefits.

READING Rise opportunity for senior Planning lawyer (8 yrs + exp) to Partner level in a top City/ major regional firm. Excellent career move for an ambitious individual seeking partnership prospects at highly profitable practice.

READING Outstanding move for an ambitious 2-5yr qualified Corporate lawyer from a City or major regional firm background seeking a fast track career path at a progressive multi-national firm. Salary to £50k + benefits.

READING Major Reading practice seeks residential property specialist (either solicitor or senior legal executive) to head up conveyancing team. Experience of plot sales work would be a strong advantage.



Contact Sharon Hall / Helen McAtamney (In-House), Caroline Fitch/Jackie Chubb/Stephen Brooks (London), or Liz Nesbitt/McEwan (Reading) on 0171 430 1711 or write to us at Graham Gill & Young Legal Recruitment, 46 Kingsway, London WC2B 6EN. Fax 0171 831 4188. E-mail: ggy@netcomuk.co.uk

0171 430 1711

W is

The French have never been afraid of reform. Judges are young, radical and middle-class. Adam Sage reports

A new report by three judges on the Lord Chancellor's appointment later in the year will place his position in the spotlight. The report will be a major test of the government's resolve to reform the judiciary.

Earlier this year, the three judges interviewed by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Justice of Appeal, Lord Justice of Appeal and Lord Justice of Appeal, said they were "Come and see what we can do for you. When he has a diamond-shaped cigarette in his mouth, the lumberjack is a sinner and a black sheep."

His lordship may appear to be the British version of the French, who has undertaken the reform over the past few years. Haumea, the show of the recent trial of the former lawyer.

With her skirts and a Judge, she won the admiration of the other members of the judiciary. She is a woman of many talents. She is a woman of many talents. She is a woman of many talents.

Law firm

THE LEADING legal advertisement has been told on the ground. The ad, which was a local newspaper, read: "your face hit me hard, your face hit me hard, your face hit me hard."

The ad was created by which describes itself as an agency for law firms. The Transportation Department is the company that has been chosen by London's Transport for the ad offensive. The campaign was due to be launched today. Reputation's creative agency had not been given the go for the ban, nor was the police. It is an admirable way, when they don't know who the experts are.

SIR ROBERT CARAWAY High Court judge, is to be Mary Arden as Law Commission. The chairman of the law reform body has to be one of the Commissioners.

QUEEN'S CO

SHOULD I DECIDE THE CASE IN THE INTERESTS OF MY CLIENT AND THEN RETROSPECTIVELY INTERPRET THE LAW TO GET THE SAME RESULT?



LAW

Why even the law is chic in France

The French have never been afraid of reform. Judges are young, radical and middle-class. Adam Sage reports



Judge Dominique Haumont-Dammas, left, who handled the recent Geoffrey Boycott case, and Judge Eva Joly

A few years ago I requested an interview with an English judge for a Sunday newspaper. Two months and three begging letters to the Lord Chancellor's Department later, the meeting took place, his honour chaperoned by the departmental press officer and displaying evident suspicion.

Earlier this month I asked to interview a French judge. "Sure," said François Sottet. "Come and see me tomorrow." When he showed up he had a diamond stud in his right ear, a cigarette in his left hand, a lumberjack shirt, black trousers and black boots.

His laid-back demeanour may appear extraordinary to the British, but it is banal in France, where the judiciary has undergone radical reform over the past 40 years.

Take Judge Dominique Haumont-Dammas, who stole the show at Geoffrey Boycott's recent trial for attacking his former lover.

With her blonde hair, short skirts and confident smile, Judge Haumont-Dammas won the admiration of onlookers and the attention of photographers assembled outside the courthouse in Grasse.

She admonished the court for "gross" behaviour in court - and told journalists that her heroine was the suffragette Emmeline Pankhurst.

Some later reports suggested that Boycott had been unlucky to stumble on an extreme feminist. But that would be misleading. "At the beginning of the 1960s, the French judiciary was deeply conservative and considered itself to be part of the powers-that-be," Judge Sottet says.

"But today, he says, 'la magistrature' is modern, youthful - he is 38 and has been hearing cases for 12 years, and is representative of the middle classes, if not the population at large.

About half of France's 6,000 judges are women, and the proportion is almost certain to increase over the next decade, with men now representing less than 40 per cent of law students. Some of the judicial stars are women.

Evolutionary changes are being made in the way judges are appointed. In the past, judges were appointed by the Ministry of Justice, but now they are elected by a body of judges and lay members.

The judge sported a diamond stud and a check shirt

crime, has produced a corps similar in outlook and style to teachers.

In a country that has nothing akin to the British lay magistrate, French judges view themselves as state employees, enjoying job security but "moderate" wages that start at about £1,300 a month.

Judges see nothing wrong with forming unions and Judge Sottet, for example, is deputy general secretary of the left-wing Syndicat de la Magistrature, which represents about a third of the judiciary.

The right-wing Association Professionnelle des Magistrats is supported by about 10 per cent and the centrist Union Syndicale des Magistrats by about 35 per cent.

Judge Sottet's career is fairly typical. At the age of 26, he was a 'juge d'enfants', specialising in juvenile crime.

People were surprised at my youth because they expect judges here to be the same as they are in Britain - fairly old. But it is not a bad thing for a 'juge d'enfants' to be young.

After all, you can remember things about your own childhood that you have forgotten when you reach 50.

The next step up the judicial ladder will probably be "in a few years", when he will be appointed one of France's 1,200 appeal court judges.

Law firm's police ad is nicked

THE LEADING legal aid firm, Fisher Meredith has been told it cannot run an advertisement on the London Underground. The ad, which has already run in a local newspaper, reads: "Dear Suspect, your face hit my book. We can correct your mistakes. Fisher Meredith Solicitors. Actions against the Police Department."

The ad was created by Reputation, which describes itself as Britain's only ad agency for law firms. But it admits that Transportation Displays Incorporated, the company that handles advertising space on London's Tubes and buses, considers the ad offensive to the police.

The campaign was due to break on the Underground today. Renagh Christopher, Reputation's creative director, denies the ad is offensive. He says that the agency had not been given written reasons for the ban, nor was there any appeals procedure.

SIR ROBERT CARNWARTH, the High Court judge, is to succeed Dame Mary Arden as Law Commission chairman when her term expires next February.

DAVID GLADWELL, head of civil justice at the Lord Chancellor's Department, could not resist a dig at Professor Michael Zander during a conference on Lord Woolf's civil justice reforms.

Stewart & Francis



Would you recognise a wigless Chancellor?

In his English Constitution (1867) Walter Bagehot wrote that "the cure for admiring the House of Lords was to go and look at it". Reading the report in Hansard of last month's battle concerning the Lord Chancellor's trousers is guaranteed to have the same effect.

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, made known to the House of Lords Select Committee on Procedure that he no longer wished to be obliged to wear breeches, tights and buckled shoes, except on ceremonial occasions.



Wearing 18th-century dress may please the tourists, but it is an impediment to the effective administration of the office of Lord Chancellor, both because of the personal inconvenience and discomfort it causes and because it makes it so much harder to persuade people that the legal system of which the Lord Chancellor is the head understands and responds to the needs of people in today's society.

The debate about men in tights could be filed away, only to be referred to whenever someone (it is only self-satisfied members of the Upper House who do so) refers to the debates in the House of Lords as containing a fund of knowledge and experience which greatly informs the legislative process.

Lord Lester of Herne Hill, QC, pointed out in his speech in support of the Lord Chancellor that there are others who need liberation from antiquated sartorial standards. Barristers and judges have to wear wigs, gowns, wing collars and bands when representing clients in court.

PRIVATE CLIENT PARTNER

£80,000+

... in a firm committed to its private client department.

Few firms have such an outstanding reputation for their private client departments as this cohesive and happy medium-sized partnership. Moreover, unlike the increasing number of firms driven by corporate deals, this practice really values its private client team and genuinely believes in its further development.

SARAH KING AT E.J. LEGAL, 44-45 CHANCERY LANE, LONDON WC2A 1JB. TEL 0171 404 6669, FAX 0171 404 8817, PM&W/E 0171 404 2039.



- Financial Services London: Leading specialist lender seeks sole in-house counsel to advise on a range of commercial and financial services issues. Role will suit a lawyer with commercial background and a good knowledge of consumer credit and secured lending issues. Excellent first in-house opportunity. Ref: 42456 James Newman
- Corporate Finance City: Bright and energetic lawyers, ideally with second European language, required for non-legal role in top 10 corporate finance house, handling a range of UK & cross border mergers and acquisitions and advisory work. Excellent academic record and commercial awareness required. Ref: 35241 James Newman
- Capital Markets London: FTSE 100 company seeks a 4-6 yrs' ppe banking lawyer with experience in a leading financial institution, City law firm or company. Candidates will ideally have significant capital markets experience. A good understanding of regulatory issues is necessary and exposure to derivatives helpful. Ref: 5085 Jessica Jay
- Futures Lawyer City: Exciting role for 3-6 yrs' qualified banking lawyer to work for futures and options desk of leading investment bank. Futures, warrants and options experience useful but not essential. General banking, derivatives and securities lawyers considered. Familiarity with regulators useful. Ref: 25174 Claire Hine

Banking

There is nothing permanent except change



PSD Reuter Simkin
28 Essex Street
London WC2R 3AT
Telephone 0171 970 9700
Facsimile 0171 938 3978
E-mail lawimp@psdgroup.com
Internet www.psdgroup.com

Europe Asia North America



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

THE TIMES TUESDAY
Comin
 London is...
 as the...
 of...
 says Edward
 Fennell
 A

Legal Advisor-Board Level

London 5+ Years' pge

To £70,000 package

Our client is a successful group in the engineering sector, with a turnover in excess of £400 million. Its business is based principally in the UK with some overseas work.

Our client is now seeking to recruit an experienced in-house lawyer. You will be involved primarily in general commercial work including contracts, interesting project-based work, and joint ventures. Initially reporting into the Financial Director, you will become an important member of the Executive team, providing support and legal advice to the various divisions of the group in all aspects of the group's activities.

You will be at least 5 years' qualified and will have some in-house legal experience. More particularly, you will have experience in commercial contracts and joint ventures. Experience of other areas of commercial legal work will also be advantageous. Most importantly, you will be self-motivated, proactive and commercial in your approach.

This is an exciting role that would suit an in-house lawyer wishing to build on their experience developed to date and become actively involved at the heart of a significant and growing business. It carries with it a competitive remuneration package for the right candidate.

For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Stephen Levey on 0171 405 6082 (0171 708 8735 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal.

email: levey@qdgroupp.co.uk

QD In-House Legal
 37-41 Bedford Row
 London
 WC1R 4JH
 Tel: 0171 405 6082
 Confidential fax: 0171 831 6304
 Web: www.qdgroupp.co.uk

This assignment is being exclusively handled by QD In-House Legal, and any direct or third party applications will be sent to them.

London Sydney
 Birmingham Melbourne
 Manchester The Netherlands
 Hong Kong Toronto
 Paris Vancouver



The Company...

Our client is one of the leading privately owned securities houses in the City and has a truly global presence. With its headquarters in New York, London is its largest overseas operation, employing a total of 850 front and back office staff.

The Opportunity...

The Company is looking to recruit an employment lawyer with 4 to 6 years' contentious and non-contentious experience to join its close-knit legal team. You will work in a highly commercial role alongside senior management. You will be involved at all stages of the employment process, handling the drafting and negotiation of various employment agreements, advising on disciplinary matters and dealing with key litigation arising out of terminations, both here and overseas.

...and You

In order to thrive in this fast-paced, demanding environment you need to be robust, business minded and tenacious. A good working knowledge of French is desirable but not essential. This role promises to be challenging with a high level of responsibility from the outset. In return, you will be rewarded with an excellent salary and benefits package.

For further information please contact our retained consultants, Debbie Offenbach and Sally Hoare on 0171 525 5822. (0181 850 7475 evenings/weekends). To submit an application please send a full CV with salary details to them at ZMB Industry, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Confidential fax 0171 525 5823. E-mail: debbie.offenbach@zaralgroup.com



London Manchester Sydney Toronto Vancouver Calgary

www.zmb.co.uk

INVESTMENT BANKING - IN-HOUSE - CITY

Legal department of leading bank requires senior investment banking lawyer. You will be dealing with mergers and acquisitions, cross-border transactions, restructurings, takeovers, debt and equity offerings on a global arena. Experience of loan syndications and structured finance is also required. Ref: 8283. Contact: Tanya Aljewicz.

PRIVATE CLIENT TAX - IN-HOUSE

A unique international tax consultancy needs private client tax lawyers with first class tax and commercial experience for its offices in London, Luxembourg and the Isle of Man. German, French or Spanish speakers are at an advantage for the Luxembourg office role. Ref: 8155, 8186, 8188. Contact: Tanya Aljewicz.

LEGAL AND CONTACTS MANAGER - IN-HOUSE

Our client requires a Business and Legal graduate with minimum 3 years experience in an international and commercial practice. You will have previous experience in the Global Digital Satellite T.V. industry and can demonstrate extensive knowledge of the USA, South Africa, Asian and Australian markets. Ref: 8607. Contact: Richard Gann.

ENVIRONMENTAL

This medium sized City firm has an expanding environmental team that is going from strength to strength. The firm now seeks an additional environmental lawyer to provide support primarily to its property and construction departments with a non-contentious bias. Top quality transactional work is on offer as well as advice on regulatory consents and applications and general advisory work. There are excellent prospects. Ref: 8183. Contact: Pandora Gethrie.

COMMERCIAL LAWYER

This medium size firm has been in existence for some eleven years. It has seen a vast growth in instructions from certain sectors of the finance industry: mutual funds, captive insurance and banking. The team wish to recruit two more lawyers with at least 5 years' commercial/banking experience. Package includes a basic salary enhanced by profit sharing. Partnership prospects are excellent. Ref: 7876. Contact: Peter Stead.

PROJECT FINANCE

Leading national firm with public listed client base needs two assistants for expanding major projects department. You will be advising on procurement, dispute resolution and financial issues including industry financing. Finance background preferred. Clients include public authorities, employers, contractors and construction consultants. Work is varied and interesting and firm is City yet friendly. Ref: 7448. Contact: Aida Martin.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

This 42 partner City firm has grown by nearly a third this year and continues to expand. The property department acts for some of the UK's largest property portfolio managers and developers, as well as major UK and international corporate clients. They require 2 assistants (0-2 and 3-4 years' PQE) to cope with a burgeoning case load. Ref: 8117. Contact: Scott Sheen.

MEDIA/BROADCASTING PARTNER

Outstanding start-up position for senior media lawyer with particular experience in broadcasting and IP distribution/copyright work. Plans to diversify and complement the firm's leading high tech and telecoms practice are in place and an impressive self-starter with clear management and proven client development skills is sought. Whether from private practice or in-house, you need to fit into a progressive, dynamic and extremely friendly culture. Ref: 8017. Contact: Jane Glassberg.



Hughes-Castell

International Legal Recruitment Consultants
 London Office: 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1RD. Tel: 0171 242 0303 Fax: 0171 242 7111
 Hong Kong Office: 701 and 702 East Town Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.
 New York • Chicago • Boston • Atlanta • San Francisco • Palo Alto • Sydney • Melbourne • Beijing • Wellington



CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS
 CROWN PROSECUTORS (LEVEL C PAYBAND C1 & C2)

C1 salary - £18,819 rising to £22,535 per annum
 (plus pay supplement of £2000 per annum)

C2 salary - £22,960 rising to £39,073 per annum

The Crown Prosecution Service is the Government Department responsible for the prosecution of criminal cases in Magistrates' and Crown Courts in England and Wales.

We are seeking to recruit a lawyer to fill a vacancy at our Leicestershire branch on a permanent basis. Candidates who are approved by the selection panel but not appointed to the current vacancy will be placed on a waiting list and may be offered future appointments within CPS East Midlands Area either on a permanent or temporary basis. CPS East Midlands Area also covers Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Northamptonshire.

As a Crown Prosecutor you will review and where appropriate prosecute criminal cases. You will also advise the police on matters relating to criminal cases. In each case you review, you will consider whether there is sufficient evidence and, if so, whether the public interest requires a prosecution.

Applicants will need excellent advocacy and organisational skills, together with the ability to work effectively within a team. Sound judgement and the capacity to work accurately under pressure are essential.

Applicants will require at least 2 years post qualification experience in criminal law for Level C2 posts. (one year for Level C1). This together with the individual's knowledge and skill levels will determine whether they are considered for appointment to Level C1 or C2.

For further information and an application pack please send a postcard with your name and address to: Personnel Section, CPS East Midlands Area, 2 King Edward Court, King Edward Street, Nottingham, NG1 1EL.

Completed applications must be received by 31 December 1998.

The Crown Prosecution Service is an equal opportunities employer. Employment and promotion are based on ability, qualification and fitness for the work. There is no unfair discrimination on the ground of sex or marital status, sexuality, colour, race, religion, ethnic or national origin, age or disability.

Crown Prosecution Service • Working in the interests of Justice



Situated in the heart of the nation's financial and business centre, London Guildhall University offers a wealth of resources, choices and opportunities, providing the highest standards of further and higher education to all levels. We can offer you a career with a difference.

Legal Practice Course Principal Lecturer

(Course Organiser Part-time Modes)

Our large and thriving Department of Law has a successful record of preparing students for the Law Society Finals and latterly the Legal Practice Course for over 25 years. We have a particular commitment to part-time legal education and we were amongst the very first institutions to be validated to offer the LPC in part-time mode.

We now have a vacancy for a qualified solicitor, with substantial experience of the teaching of law at professional level, to take responsibility, within the departmental management team, for the organisation and development of the part-time evening modes of the LPC. Salary will be within the range of £29,801 to £36,681 per annum.

For an informal discussion, please call Nick Saunders (LPC Director) on 0171 320 1509 or Frank Webb (Head of Department) on 0171 320 1501.

To receive an application pack call the 24hr recruitment hotline on 0171 320 3472, fax on 0171 320 3477 or e-mail cogdon@lgu.ac.uk quoting your name, address, where you saw the advert and Ref. No. 98/149. Alternatively apply on-line via The Monster Board on http://www.monster.co.uk. The closing date for applications is 16 December 1998.



CHAMBERS OF JEREMY GIBBONS QC

17 CARLTON CRESCENT, SOUTHAMPTON

Experience the quality of life on the South Coast

CRIMINAL PRACTITIONERS
 We are a well-respected provincial set, currently overburdened with criminal work (particularly prosecuting) and need to recruit Criminal Practitioners (CPS Grade 3 and 4). Contact Michael Forster

MATRIMONIAL AND CHILD CARE PRACTITIONERS

We have a similar overload of Matrimonial and Child Care work, particularly for Local Authorities along the South Coast. (5 years call and over)
 Contact: Roberta Holland

All applications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Apply to Chambers of Jeremy Gibbons QC, 17 Carlton Crescent, Southampton, Hampshire, SO15 2XR. Tel: 01703 320329/232000 E-mail: greg@jg17cc.co.uk

SOLICITOR DEFENDANT PERSONAL INJURY BIRMINGHAM CITY CENTRE

Peter Rickson & Partners is looking to recruit a Solicitor to join its defendant personal injury team at its prestigious offices in Birmingham City Centre. To be considered you must have at least 2 years defendant insurance experience handling your own caseload. If successful you will be dealing with good quality work, predominantly personal injury involving employer/public liability and road traffic claims. Excellent benefits and salary commensurate to experience.

If you would like to be considered for this opportunity please forward your CV to David Wallen, Managing Partner, Peter Rickson & Partners, Union Chambers, 63 Temple Row, Birmingham B2 5LS.

Closing date for applications Friday, 11th December.

Prosecutors criticised

CPS rules out action

Rise to the challenge, not the headlines

OVER the past twelve years the CPS has received a mountain of bad publicity. Over the next twelve we'll receive even more. For no matter how effective we become, public criticism will always be a fact of life.

Following a fundamental independent review of our management, organisation and operation, the new CPS will be more decentralised - with a sharper focus on legal work and service delivery across the country.

The restructured CPS will consist of 42 geographical areas, each headed by a Chief Crown Prosecutor who will be both a high-profile ambassador for the CPS and prosecutor, pursuing an active criminal case load.

We aim to recruit all 42 Chief Crown Prosecutors, as well as Assistant Chief

Crown Prosecutors for London, through a process of open competition. For solicitors and barristers with good knowledge of criminal law, this provides unprecedented opportunities for personal involvement in high-profile prosecution cases - together with a chance to help shape the future of the criminal justice system at a national level. Since you will be building and coaching your own team of lawyers, clear leadership potential is essential, with the professional credibility to liaise at the highest levels and a real willingness to embrace change.

For an information pack and application details, please call www.cps.gov.uk on (line) 24 hour line - 0171 939 2615 quoting reference 87/99/1. Alternatively, for a confidential discussion, call Gavin Burgess on 0171 289 4554, Alan McVey on 0171 939 3293 or James Greenham on 0171 939 2514.

Closing date for receipt of applications is by noon on 7 December.

www.cps.gov.uk
 PricewaterhouseCoopers, Executive Search & Selection, Southwark Tower, 32 London Bridge Street, London SE1 9SY. Fax: 0171 378 0647. E-mail: james.greenham@pwc.pricewaterhousecoopers.com

CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

The Crown Prosecution Service is an equal opportunities employer, and positively encourages applications from people with disabilities.

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO: BOX No..... c/o TIMES NEWSPAPERS P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST, LONDON, E1 9GA

BANKING LITIGATION - W. COVENTRY, 2nd and 3rd year PQE
 Quality corporate advisory work in banking, insurance, reinsurance & company. Tel: 01747 828337. Fax: 01747 828307 (over)

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION - 2nd year PQE
 Quality work for major PLCs, insurance & company. Tel: 01747 828337. Fax: 01747 828307 (over)

NEED HELP - 2nd year PQE
 Great opportunity for 2nd year PQE specialist. Personal responsibility, professional development & company. Tel: 01747 828337. Fax: 01747 828307 (over)

RUSSIAN LAWYER
 Russian qualified lawyer with banking experience required for a firm of solicitors in the City. Must have excellent English and a good knowledge of English legal and financial concepts. Competitive salary with excellent prospects to the City. Tel: 01747 828337. Fax: 01747 828307 (over)

Coming clean on dirty deals

London is fast gaining a label as the capital of corruption, says Edward Fennell

Allegations last week by the National Criminal Intelligence Service (NCIS) that "half a dozen big City of London law firms" were involved in money-laundering provoked a mix of shock and indignation among lawyers. Freshfields dismissed the claims as a "non-story", while Steven Blakeley, the managing partner at Wilde Sapte, said that he would be "very surprised" if leading City firms had been knowingly involved in money-laundering.

The scatter-gun allegations — which implied that City lawyers collectively are turning a blind eye or, worse, are in cahoots with international criminals — had clearly touched a delicate spot. As one firm says: "The claims are long on general assertion and short on detail. Surely the best way to run an investigation of this type is to keep mum, and then strike."

The NCIS is not alone in expressing fears about what goes on in London. Jeremy Carver, a solicitor and member of the City Promotion Panel, says there is a growing view, especially in the US, that London has become "the money-laundering capital of the world". In order to counter this, Mr Carver says: "We have a particular obligation to ensure that the London market is not penetrated by those who wish to take advantage of its size and complexity."

What has particularly irked the NCIS is the drop in the number of reports by law firms of transactions in which money-laundering may be taking place. Every lawyer in the UK is under a legal obligation to notify the authorities if they come across instances that arouse suspicion.

To undertake this monitor-



Al Pacino and Keanu Reeves in *The Devil's Advocate*: greed or even personal drug problems may lure some lawyers into shady areas

ing role, it is essential that firms are constantly watchful. In particular, they must run a series of checks when taking on any new clients. White & Case, a US firm with a fast-growing London practice, explained that any new client has to be approved by its New Business Clearance Committee. Margaret Cole, the firm's money-laundering reporting officer (MLRO), says: "We are very cautious about taking on new clients and have to be totally satisfied with their credentials. The same procedures operate in our offices worldwide."

Other leading firms, including names such as Clifford Chance and Slaughter

and May, operate similar procedures. "Before we open a file on a new client, there's a series of questions which must be answered, and firms to be completed by a partner to ensure against the possibility of money-laundering," says Jonathan Haw of Slaughter and May. "Every-one in the firm, fee-earners and support staff alike, is well aware of the risks."

Money-laundering also is tackled regularly in staff training. Garth Pollard, the MLRO at Clifford Chance, says: "We recognise that we have to be eternally vigilant. We run regular seminars to remind everyone in the firm of what to look for and how important this is. The trigger

signs of possible money-laundering are when it is not clear where the finance in a deal is coming from or where the various elements in the transaction do not add up."

When suspicions are aroused, standard practice is for a report to be made direct to the firm's MLRO. There is no need to consult a manager or discuss it with a partner. The MLRO must investigate the concerns and decide whether to take the matter to the authorities.

Most big firms say that in the past three or four years they have referred about half

a dozen transactions to police. But as one MLRO admits: "The numbers have been falling."

So are the crooks becoming more adept at disguising these dubious deals? Or are law firms less astute at identifying them? The common view among the big firms is that criminals are now wise to the likelihood of being reported if they try to use a leading solicitor and are focusing instead on smaller outfits who may be less alert or less experienced in international matters.

Maybe the real source of the NCIS's claims is the innate antipathy between the police and the legal profession. For example, Simon

Goddard, head of the strategic and specialist branch at the NCIS, was reported as saying: "You don't become a lawyer to perform a public service; you become a lawyer to make money."

No doubt big money can be made from aiding money-laundering but the penalties are very stiff. It would certainly mean the end of the individual's career. That does not exclude, however, the possibility of some "bad apples" somewhere.

Drug use, blackmail or greed cannot be ruled out as possible causes of corruption. And as the collapse of Barings revealed, rogues are to be found in even the most respected institutions.

Why women are held back

Female lawyers are still engrossed in a personal war against discrimination. Alison Clarke examines the problems

There are about 10,000 barristers in this country, about a quarter of whom are women. Only 1,600 make it to Queen's Counsel — and just 72 of those are female. That is one in every six men, compared to one in every 140 women.

Things are not much better for solicitors. Though more women have been qualifying than men over the past few years, the Law Society's annual salary survey last year revealed that the average earnings of women solicitors still fall short of those of men — at all levels.

Now some women lawyers are fighting back. Jo Hayes, a barrister since 1980, is challenging the way in which Treasury counsel — a panel of lawyers that handles government cases — has historically been appointed from a secret list of approved barristers. At the last count, there were 116 on the list, 103 of whom were men. All 13 women were on a supplementary panel, which could undertake work of a minor nature only.

A spokeswoman for John Morris, the Attorney-General, denies discrimination and in line with the recommendations of a working party earlier is "determined to have an open and transparent system".

But Sara Leslie, a partner at Irwin Mitchell, solicitors acting for Ms Hayes, is not convinced. She believes that though the changes went some way to addressing her client's concerns, the new rules did not cover everyone and therefore did not affect the claim. She says: "It's a bit like an employer who introduces an equal opportunities policy, but says it will operate only up to a certain level."

By way of defence, the Attorney-General claims that the courts do not have jurisdiction to hear the case, the only option being an application for judicial review. "This would leave my client without an effective remedy," Ms Leslie says, "because she cannot call witnesses or be awarded damages in judicial re-

view". But at a hearing last week an employment tribunal decided that all the issues should be heard together at the main hearing in June next year when, according to Ms Leslie, the Attorney-General will have to give evidence in person.

Ms Leslie confirms that if the claims are rejected, her client is ready to take the matter to Europe.

There is also the case of Jane Coker, an immigration solicitor for 20 years and an adviser to the Labour Party when it was in opposition. She is claiming sex discrimination against Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, after the appointment earlier, after the appointment earlier, a friend of the Chancellor, to the post of special adviser.

Another lawyer, Martha O'Connor, is claiming both sex and race discrimination.

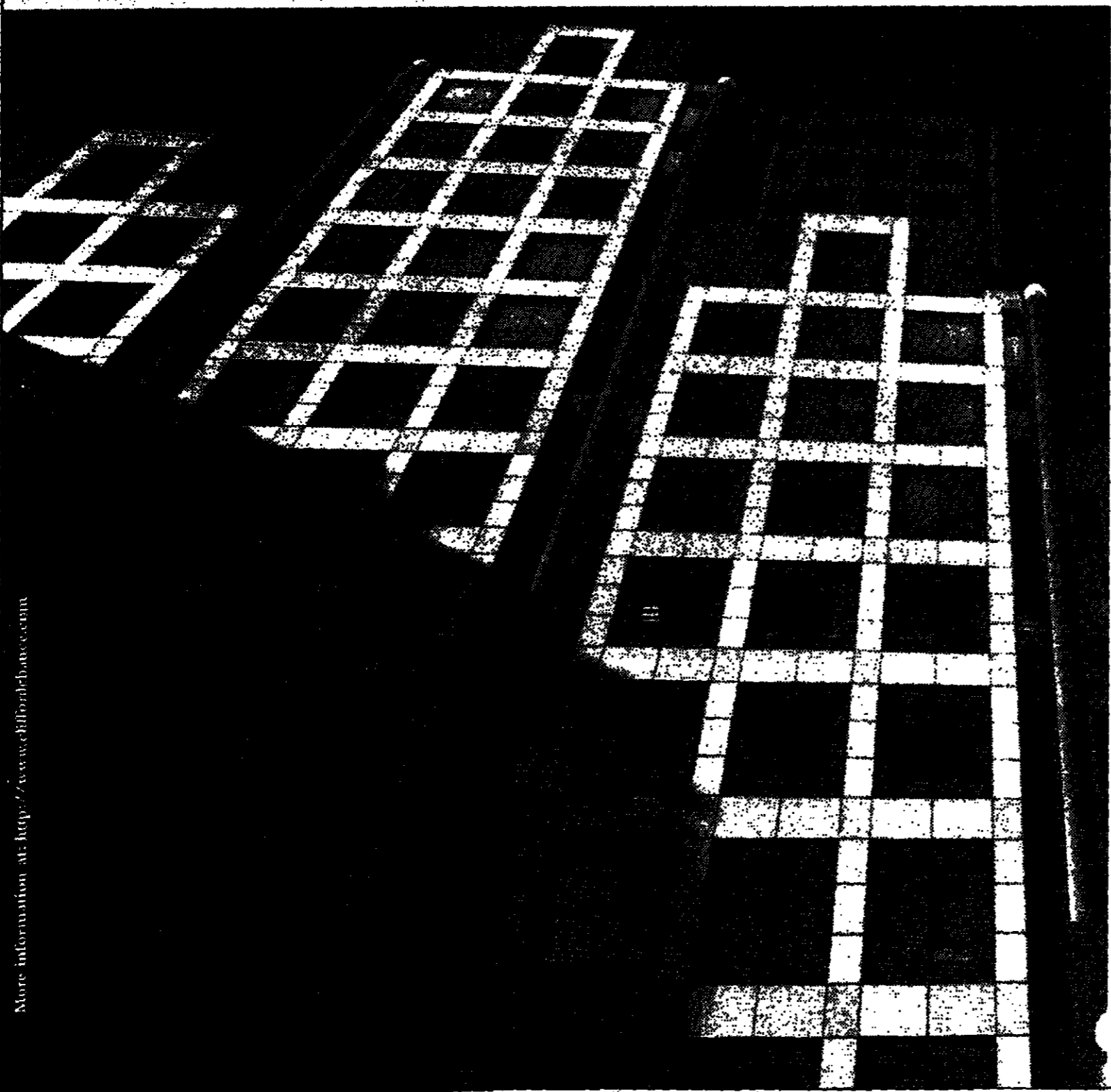
Jane Deighton, the solicitor for both women, says that the Lord Chancellor has admitted he did not advertise the post. "We believe that he chose from among his mates," she claims. "That seems like indirect discrimination." She described the Lord Chancellor's defence as "incoherent".

A spokesman for the department denies the claims and says that the Lord Chancellor has followed standard procedure. A Cabinet Office spokesman has confirmed that as a result of an order earlier last month, the Lord Chancellor will give evidence at the full hearing next March. This is thought to be the first time that a Lord Chancellor has been required to give evidence in his own defence under oath.

In September four women solicitors at the National Union of Teachers lodged equal pay claims against their employer, seeking the same pay as male regional officers. Neither the NUT, nor the union representing the women, Manufacturing, Science and Finance, would comment.

THE KEY ISSUES FOR CLIFFORD CHANCE

AS BROAD AS WE ARE TALL



FINANCE LAWYERS

People who join us are pleasantly surprised at life inside Clifford Chance. With us, you will develop a breadth of business knowledge, international appreciation and wide responsibility. Our culture is one of sharing - experience, knowledge and insight - and our infrastructure is designed to help our lawyers meet the increasingly technical and complex demands placed on them by our clients.

We're still growing. We have a thriving Finance Practice in London and across our international network and we want lawyers who can bring their own expertise to what we have to offer.

Please apply in writing to Pat Shaw, Personnel Manager, Clifford Chance,

200 Aldersgate Street, London, EC1A 4JJ. Tel: 0171 600 1000.

Fax: 0171 600 5555.

CLIFFORD CHANCE

More information at: <http://www.cliffordchance.com>

Arlington Commercial Property Lawyer

Arlington is the market leader in business park development in the UK with 18 business parks with permission for 20 million square feet of future development. The company is now expanding into new sectors such as development management and business services, as well as increasing its revenue from its current activities of trading and investment.

Reading

In October 1988, Arlington was purchased by US Property Fund Manager, Pricoa Property Investment Management (a subsidiary of Prudential Insurance of America), on behalf of clients. The strategy of consolidation and growth is being pursued over a 3-5 year timescale to enable its shareholders to realise value from a Stock Exchange flotation.

Given this strategy for growth, an additional solicitor is now required who will report to the Legal Director. Working closely with the commercial teams, you will provide legal and strategic advice at each stage of a development project. Your responsibilities will include the management of legal work involved in the planning, construction, financing, letting and disposal of high quality commercial developments.

You will be a lawyer with:

- 1-4 years' post qualification experience gained in a leading property practice or a property company.

£ Excellent + Car + Benefits

- Commercial property, preferably with some construction experience.
- A sound legal mind with an organised and thorough approach.
- The ability to formulate solutions and legal strategy to achieve commercial objectives.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

This is an exciting opportunity for a young property lawyer to join a high profile and profitable development company.

Interested candidates should contact Catherine Brown on 0171 269 2484 or write to her enclosing your CV at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41, Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 405 2936, quoting ref 423680 or e-mail: catherinebrown@michaelpage.com

This assignment is being handled exclusively and any direct or third party applications will be forwarded to Michael Page.

Michael Page

LEGAL

www.michaelpage.com

Australia • China • France • Germany • Hong Kong • Italy • Netherlands • New Zealand • Singapore • Spain • UK • USA

ENTREPRENEURIAL LITIGATION AND COMMERCIAL LAWYERS

- Icy east wind blowing towards your firm?
- Economic crisis reducing your firm's turnover?
- Partnership rewards/prospects not so rosy?
- Or just fed up with your lot?!

We are a niche commercial firm in Mayfair (good shops, restaurants, transport links etc) rated as one of the Top 100 firms in the Legal 500.

We have doubled in size in the last 2 years

We have a worldwide blue chip client base spread across different markets

We have no exposure to Russia, the Far East or capital markets work

We remember from the last recession that those who made the right career moves on the down cycle were best placed to profit from the way up

And those who didn't get caught waiting for green shoots that took years to come

If your firm doesn't fully appreciate your commercial skills, and you feel ready for an entrepreneurial leap, then you should be talking to us.

We have a structure which allows you to develop your clients and build your niche, supported by comprehensive marketing and IT, within a culture where you can fulfil your potential.

Don't sit and wait for a recession to bite before you consider your future-do it now!

Ring Stephen Moss in confidence on 0171 318 4444, or write to him at

REID MINTY

International Law Firm

19 Bourdon Place, Mayfair, London W1X 9HZ

or call our consultant Ian McLuskie of Qudos International on 0860 729907 for a confidential discussion

Banking & finance lawyers

Investment exchange Capital markets

As one of the recognised and leading investment exchanges under the FSA, our client not only has a statutory responsibility for regulating its market place, but also for maintaining London's profile as a world-class financial centre.

Junior lawyers are now required to join the exchange in an advisory capacity. Relevant experience would encompass corporate finance, banking and capital markets. The position will involve gaining a thorough understanding of the transaction via extensive liaison with external advisors and professionals, followed by regulatory interpretation and ongoing advice. It is an ideal opportunity for those with limited capital market knowledge to acquire in-depth transactional experience.

Global investment bank Senior derivatives role

Our client is one of the largest and pre-eminent financial services groups globally. It is active in all the key markets in the world and excels in the development of financial products.

As an organisation it promotes a strong legal culture and has a highly respected and well managed transaction management team which provides advisory and transactional services to the investment banking businesses. It now seeks a senior banking expert to join the team at one of the highest levels. Ideally candidates should be at least 6 years' qualified and have undertaken fixed income, exotic and credit derivatives transactions including structured finance. The remuneration package will be amongst the best.

International commercial bank IT lawyer

Our client is an international banking group with a network of 600 offices in more than 40 countries. Its activities encompass retail, commercial and corporate banking.

Based at group head office in London, the international legal department is seeking an additional member with significant expertise in IT matters. The successful candidate is likely to have 4-6 years' in-depth experience of IT, together with a very thorough knowledge of related IP matters. Prior experience in banking is certainly not prerequisite, though would clearly be helpful as work will involve matters such as electronic banking, trading and management systems. The position will offer real commercial breadth.

23 Long Lane, London EC1A 9HL
0171 606 8844 Fax: 600 1793
banking@chambersrecruitment.co.uk

CHAMBERS
RECRUITMENT

We recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. Please contact Deborah Mirman or Stuart Merton.

Treasury Lawyer

Woolwich Treasury Services

Competitive Salary and Benefits Package - South London

Woolwich plc's current success has been built on first class financial products, an excellent corporate strategy and bright, committed people. We now need a lawyer to set up and manage an "in-house" legal support function within Woolwich Treasury Services.

The role will involve providing "hands on" input and direction to the Woolwich Treasury Services business plan via the development and implementation of complementary legal and compliance policies and procedures in addition to upgrading the existing compliance function within Woolwich Treasury Services.

Responsibility will also be undertaken for the documentation associated with swaps, foreign exchange, FRAs, repos and gilt stock lending, MTNs and similar transactions.

To be considered for this new and multi-faceted role, you will be a self-starter with a high level of personal motivation and confidence, coupled with superb interpersonal and networking skills and a wide strategic perspective. You will also be a solicitor or barrister and have had a minimum of 2 years PQE within both a major City practice and a London-based Treasury department. Previous compliance experience within a major financial institution will be an advantage.

If you are interested in this new challenge, please send your full CV, including details of your current remuneration, to Nick Garrett, Human Resources Manager, Woolwich plc, Watling Street, Besleyheath, Kent DA6 7RR.
Closing date: 18 December 1998.

Get much more with the
WOOLWICH

Situated in the heart of the nation's financial and business centre, London Guildhall University offers a wealth of resources, choices and opportunities, providing the highest standards of further and higher education to all levels. We can offer you a career with a difference.

Legal Practice Course Principal Lecturer (Course Organiser Part-time Modes)

Our large and thriving Department of Law has a successful record of preparing students for the Law Society Finals and latterly the Legal Practice Course for over 25 years. We have a particular commitment to part-time legal education and we were amongst the very first institutions to be validated to offer the LPC in part-time mode.

We now have a vacancy for a qualified solicitor, with substantial experience of the teaching of law at professional level, to take responsibility within the departmental management team, for the organisation and development of the part-time evening modes of the LPC. Salary will be within the range of £29,601 to £36,887 per annum.

For an informal discussion, please call Nick Saunders (LPC Director) on 0171 320 1509 or Frank Webb (Head of Department) on 0171 320 1501.

To receive an application pack call the 24hr recruitment hotline on 0171 320 3472, fax on 0171 320 3477 or e-mail cogdon@lgu.ac.uk quoting your name, address, where you saw the advert and Ref. No. 98/149. Alternatively apply on-line via The Monster Board on http://www.monster.co.uk. The closing date for applications is 16 December 1998.

**LONDON GUILDHALL
UNIVERSITY**
Advancing Learning and Equal Opportunities



Tax Lawyer - Capital Markets

Leading Edge Professional Advice

Our client is a recognised 'blue-chip' name amongst a handful of truly global firms. This year has seen record revenue and profit levels, and current strategic plans will distinguish it further as a multi-service centre of excellence servicing its prestigious client base. As part of the important next steps, a new role has been identified for an experienced Tax Lawyer with strong capital markets experience.

Responsibilities are wide ranging, but include:

- Being a leading member of a small team further enhancing the firm's capital markets tax advisory expertise
- Advising at the highest levels and leading presentations to prospective clients
- Playing an important role in developing the broader strategic goals of the firm
- Using your wider commercial skills to develop the firm's reputation as a broad based, relationship-driven business adviser

This is a role for an exceptional individual who combines a strong technical background, a well developed sense of commercial awareness and proven relationship building skills. Suitable candidates will be tax lawyers, importantly having gained broad exposure to capital markets/structured products, and although not essential, wider experience may include corporate finance/M&A deals. It is likely that you will be working for one of the leading law firms or possibly a large financial services group or Top 5 accountancy practice.

The firm has structured and carefully considered strategic development plans which further allow it to capitalise upon its existing reputation. Consequently, career opportunities are genuinely outstanding and importantly, highly realistic. This includes a clearly mapped out path to an appointment at the highest levels in the firm. The stated salary is only a broad indicator and will not prove a limiting factor for the appropriate candidate.

Interested candidates should write with full CV, quoting current rewards package to Howard Foster or Karen Wilson, Financial Services & City Practice, Hoggett Bowers, 28 Essex Street, London WC2R 3AT, Tel: 0171 970 9600, Fax: 0171 353 6924, quoting ref: LHF/20753/TT.

Hoggett Bowers Executive Search
and Selection



Part of the PSD Group

ALL BOX NUMBER REPLIES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO:
BOX No.
c/a THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS
P.O. BOX 3553, VIRGINIA ST, LONDON, E1 9GA

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6828

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

FAX:
0171 782 7899

OUR CULTURE

Vibrant. Mould-breaking. Creative. Visionary. These are just a few of the qualities defining our culture which is genuinely very different from other firms; a culture which is the foundation of our success.

Since the creation of the firm in 1982, we've grown at an astonishing rate to a corporate led full service firm. In 1998 we achieved record earnings, maintained our status as one of the top 10 firms for profitability and endorsed our European strategy by joining forces with specialist private equity and M&A German firm Knopf Tulloch.

Our corporate department is over 100 lawyers strong, has figured prominently in recent M&A and private equity deal tables and is a market leader in international private equity and securities work. We seek assistant solicitors keen to make their mark in the following disciplines:

If you want to join a firm still young and flexible enough for individuals to make a difference, talk to our retained consultants now.



BAKER & MCKENZIE

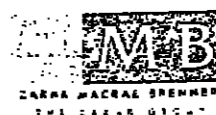
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY LAWYER 1-4 YEARS' PQE

Baker & McKenzie's Information and Communications Technology Law Group is independently rated as a leader in its field.

Operating at the cutting edge of the many exciting developments in this area, the Group provides a full range of contentious and non-contentious advice to its truly outstanding client base of suppliers and users of information and communications technology. The IT expertise in its offices in leading centres around the world gives strength in depth and a genuine international perspective to the practice.

The firm is looking for an additional IT lawyer with 1-4 years' non-contentious expertise or ideally a mix. The successful candidate will be actively seeking a high level of responsibility and demonstrate the ability to apply their legal knowledge in a practical and creative way. You will enjoy working as part of a cohesive and highly motivated team and will be encouraged to play a full part in the growth of the Group through participating in business development activities. Remuneration will be excellent.

For further information in complete confidence please contact our retained consultants Debbie Cochrane or Joe Macrae on 0171 523 3838 (evenings/weekends 0171 359 5212) or write to them at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Confidential fax 0171 247 5174. E-mail debbie.cochrane@zarskgroup.com



For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Greg Abraham or Nick Shilton on 0171 405 6062 (0171 435 4883 or 0171 385 7017 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Legal, Email: shilton@qdggroup.co.uk abraham@qdggroup.co.uk

QD Legal
37-41 Bedford Row,
London WC1R 4JH
Tel: 0171 405 6062
Confidential fax: 0171 831 6394

London
Birmingham
Leeds
Manchester
Hong Kong
Paris

New York
Sydney
Melbourne
The Netherlands
Toronto
Vancouver



BOLERO

Legal & Commercial Affairs

Excellent Salary and Benefits

Bolero is a joint venture company established by S.W.I.F.T. sc and the TT Club, based in the City of London. An innovative concept, its purpose is to dematerialise trade documentation replacing it with electronic messages which will achieve the same result as their traditional paper equivalents. The service will be provided via a neutral cross industry messaging IT application. A central feature of the service is a world-wide legal framework replicating the results of paper documents enabling users to trade globally.

This exciting venture is now looking to recruit a further lawyer, with not less than five years' post qualification experience, to assist in the crucial role of researching and developing an international legal framework, to which all users of the service will be required to subscribe. A background in banking/financial law, ideally trade finance and/or electronic commerce and international law will be of interest. Experience in a civil law jurisdiction will be a bonus.

In addition to the primary role of developing the legal framework the role will also include negotiation and drafting of IT development contracts, licensing agreements, intellectual property rights and facets of corporate work.

Involving worldwide travel, the successful individual will become an integral part of a team and relish the opportunity of dealing with customers, speaking at conferences, writing articles and generally promoting Bolero. This is a central role in a fast moving business involved in a leading edge development delivering services to the international trade community.

If you think you have the interest and experience, please contact our retained consultant, Hugh Kelly on 0171 588 7878. To submit an application, please send a full CV and details of current salary to Kellyfield Consulting, Moor House (Seventh floor), 119 London Wall, London EC2Y 5ET. Confidential fax: 0171 588 7070. e-mail: hugh@kellyfield.com



HITACHI

SOLICITOR

Based Maidenhead

The Hitachi Group is one of the world's leading manufacturers of industrial, electronic and consumer products.

Hitachi Europe Ltd, whose major activities are the sales and distribution of electronic components, information technology products, power machinery and industrial equipment, is now seeking a solicitor to join the Legal Department in its European Headquarters based in Maidenhead. Reporting to the General Manager - Legal Services you will be expected to provide broad ranging advice to the company's UK and other European operations and in particular will be responsible for the negotiation, review and drafting of a whole range of commercial contracts and licenses and for the legal implications of all major business decisions, company litigation and other corporate matters.

Candidates should have between three and five years' experience gained in either private practice or industry. Some exposure to high technology work would be an advantage. They should also have a practical business orientation, well-developed interpersonal skills and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels of management.

Hitachi Europe Ltd offers a competitive salary and benefits package for this position

Please apply in writing, enclosing a CV and quoting current salary details to Tony Tolan, General Manager, Legal Services, Hitachi Europe Ltd, Whitebrook Park, Lower Cookham Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8YA. Telephone (01628) 585232. Fax (01628) 585380.

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius

INCORPORATED IN NEW YORK

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius

Staking our claim in the City.

We are one of the 10 largest law firms in the world and are celebrating our 125th Anniversary this year. The Firm has had a presence in London since 1981. We are growing strongly and will continue to do so.

Our London office is the focus for our international expansion and provides a vital overseas link for our principal U.S. offices in New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Los Angeles. The Firm's broad range of cross border business is further strengthened by our presence in Brussels, Frankfurt, Singapore and Tokyo.

As part of our commitment to continued growth in London, we are

moving to prestigious new offices in Gresham Street, EC2. The flavour of our London office is predominantly English, with a dash of the best of American. This blend means that we can offer ambitious and talented lawyers a unique opportunity to progress.

To fit into our expanding London team, you should be hardworking and professional, whilst maintaining a sense of humour. A common sense approach and the ability to adapt are essential.

Our current needs at the non-partner level are:
Corporate Lawyer
Our international business and

finance practice is seeking a 3-5 ppe assistant to play a key role in a broad range of cross border mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and corporate finance transactions.

Tax Lawyer

If you are a talented and versatile tax lawyer with a creative legal brain and 2-4 years' high grade ppe, we can offer you an exciting opportunity in our international tax practice.

Private Capital Lawyer

Our experienced international private capital group requires a 0-2 ppe assistant with an interest in a busy UK and offshore trusts and high net worth individual practice.

Commercial Property

As a 2-4 year ppe assistant with broad commercial property experience, your background will ideally have an emphasis on secured lending, landlord and tenant matters and transactional work.

To find out more, call our retained consultants Andrew Caulfield or Joe Macrae at ZMB on 0171 523 3838 (01483 628110 evenings/weekends), or write to them at ZMB, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PL. Confidential fax: 0171 523 3839. E-mail: andrew.caulfield@zarskgroup.com



HOUSE OF COMMONS
European Scrutiny Committee
and Deregulation Committee

Legal Assistant

£23,408 - £30,221 p.a.

Two year period appointment with the possibility of extension

Applications are invited from graduates with a sound basic knowledge of European Community Law and constitutional law. A legal professional qualification and practical experience of handling EU law issues and applying and interpreting UK legislation would be an advantage but not essential.

The European Scrutiny Committee scrutinises a wide range of EU documents (including proposals for legislation by the Council) and reports to the House on whether they raise issues of legal or political importance.

The Deregulation Committee considers and reports to the House on orders proposed to be made under section 1 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994.

The Legal Assistant will provide legal assistance and support to Counsel to the Speaker (European Legislation) who acts as Adviser to these Select Committees.

The appointment will commence as soon as possible. The salary will be in the range £23,408 to £30,221 p.a. according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 15th December 1998), write to Capita RAS, Innovation Court, New Street, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 7JB. Telephone 01325 745170 (24 hours). Fax 01256 383786/383787. Internet: <http://www.rasnet.co.uk/>. Please quote reference C4065.

The House of Commons is committed to Equal Opportunities. Applications from disabled applicants will be welcomed.

RACING:
Rehearsal

ROBERT BYRNE

NEWCAST

12.25

FORM FOCUS

12.55

FORM FOCUS

1.25

FORM FOCUS

RACE LINE

101

102

103

122

RACING: SEE MORE BUSINESS AND SUNY BAY AMONG CHEPSTOW ENTRIES

Rehearsal draws strong cast

By CHRIS McGRATH

AS THOUGH stung by the impudence of Teton Mills' sudden demand for enrolment, established members of the steeplechasing elite are anxious to demonstrate the exacting conditions of entry.

After the grey's runaway success in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup at Newbury last weekend, bookmakers put his name forward for Marcell Grand National favouritism - but he could be blackballed.



Edredon Bleu heads the betting for Saturday's Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown

RICHARD EVANS

Next best: Shadrivan (3.25 Newton Abbot)

Chase; Earth Summit, fresh from a triumphant return to Aintree in the Becher Chase; and Suny Bay, officially rated the best chaser in training.

Suny Bay won the Hennessy 12 months ago, under a bigger weight than Teton Mills and with comparable authority, if not with quite the same emphasis.

Edredon Bleu impressed many with his last jumping in the latter's five-day declaration. The former has looked a good bet for the Tingle Creek Chase after yesterday's five-day declaration.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

Edredon Bleu (10/1) is the best value in the ante-post market. He is a 10/1 shot to win the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown on Saturday.

Table with columns for race name, horse name, odds, and other details. Includes 'GUIDE TO THE PRICES' and 'Ladbrokes'.

LADROKES is surprisingly the only firm to offer prices on a fascinating Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Trophy Chase after yesterday's five-day declaration.

Table listing race results for 12.25 Lord Lamb and 12.55 NOSHANNANNIKIN (nap).

Table listing race results for 12.25 TOMMY O'CONNOR NOVICES HURDLE.

Table listing race results for 12.55 EBF WAKE NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE.

Table listing race results for 12.55 ANDY BARKER NOVICES CHASE.

Table listing race results for 1.25 AMY BARBER NOVICES CHASE.

1.55 PHILIP CUSSINS CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HURDLE

Table listing race results for Philip Cussins Conditional Jockeys Hurdle.

2.25 JOHN COLLIER HURDLE

Table listing race results for John Collier Hurdle.

2.55 JOHN WILKINSON HURDLE

Table listing race results for John Wilkinson Hurdle.

3.25 HARRY OXON STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE

Table listing race results for Harry Oxon Standard Open National Hunt Flat Race.

Worcester

Table listing race results for Worcester.

Folkestone

Table listing race results for Folkestone.

Kelso

Table listing race results for Kelso.

Course Specialists

Table listing course specialists for various tracks.

NEWTON ABBOT

THUNDERER
1.05 Estate Agent, 1.35 Kingsfold Pet, 2.05 Elogant Des Cosses, 2.35 Saxon Duke, 3.05 Sunuv-gun, 3.35 Wortcostalotub.

1.05 COME GREYHOUND RACING AT NEWTON

Table listing greyhound racing results for 1.05 Come Greyhound Racing at Newton.

1.35 COME RACING ON BOXING DAY NOVICES

Table listing racing results for 1.35 Come Racing on Boxing Day Novices.

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER
11.40 Double Echo, 12.10 Moel, 12.40 Li Principle, 1.15 Flying Officer, 1.45 Love Diamonds, 2.15 Theatre Magic, 2.45 Dandy Regent, 3.15 Craigay.

11.40 ARCTIC CIRCLE HURDLE

Table listing race results for 11.40 Arctic Circle Hurdle.

12.10 LADROK HURDLE

Table listing race results for 12.10 Ladrok Hurdle.

12.40 TROPIC OF CAPRICORN AMATEUR RIDERS

Table listing race results for 12.40 Tropic of Capricorn Amateur Riders.

1.15 STROKE OF CANCER MAIDEN STAKES

Table listing race results for 1.15 Stroke of Cancer Maiden Stakes.

2.05 WEST COUNTRY LADY RIDERS NOVICES

Table listing race results for 2.05 West Country Lady Riders Novices.

2.35 TOTE HURDLE CHASE

Table listing race results for 2.35 Tote Hurdle Chase.

3.05 TIM BOUNDED MEMORIAL NOVICE

Table listing race results for 3.05 Tim Bounded Memorial Novice.

3.35 WALRUS HURDLE

Table listing race results for 3.35 Walrus Hurdle.

1.45 EQUATOR NURSERY HURDLE

Table listing race results for 1.45 Equator Nursery Hurdle.

2.15 LADROK HURDLE

Table listing race results for 2.15 Ladrok Hurdle.

2.45 GREENWICH STAKES

Table listing race results for 2.45 Greenwich Stakes.

3.15 ARCTIC CIRCLE HURDLE

Table listing race results for 3.15 Arctic Circle Hurdle.

Advertisement for 'CHESS COMPETITION HOTLINE' featuring Garry Kasparov. Includes text: 'Ten readers will test their skills against the grand master' and 'Call the number below for your chance to take part'.

Advertisement for 'RACELINE' featuring 'N. ABBOT NEWCASTLE SOUTHWELL & GLOUCESTER' and 'FULL RESULTS SERVICE'.

Advertisement for 'SPECIALISTS' listing various racing services and contact information.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Broncos gallop towards record

By Oliver Holt

THERE were better games in the National Football League (NFL) on Sunday, games with dramatic endings, controversial calls and even a mass player walkout, but still there was nothing to match the increasing fascination of the Denver Broncos' seemingly inexorable march on history.

While the Buffalo Bills stomped back to their locker-room before the end of their crucial defeat by the New England Patriots in protest at a series of questionable refereeing decisions, the Broncos were smashing more NFL records as they maintained their remarkable 100 per cent record this season and walked past the San Diego Chargers.

Last January, the Broncos surprised everyone when they beat the Green Bay Packers in San Diego to win the Super Bowl. On Sunday, they returned to the city on the West Coast to keep alive their new dream of becoming only the second team — after the Miami Dolphins in 1972 — to negotiate an entire season without a defeat. Like Bob Beamon's long-jump record, nobody thought that Miami's achievement would be matched, let alone bettered. Suddenly, it is beginning to seem possible.

Their 31-16 victory over the Chargers improved the Broncos' record this season to 12 wins and no defeats, a start equalled only by the Chicago Bears in 1934 and 1985 and by the Dolphins 26 years ago. The Denver victory was their seventeenth consecutive triumph, a run that includes their Super Bowl win ten months ago.

"The way this team plays," John Elway, the Broncos quarterback, said, "and the nature of the football team that we have, we never think that we can't win a game. Of course it's not going to be smooth, but it is just a matter of making

the plays you have to make and pressing on towards the end. There is so much character on this team."

Elway, who became last week only the second quarterback in the NFL to throw for more than 50,000 yards, kept the statisticians happy on Sunday when his four touchdown passes took him beyond Johnny Unitas, the former Baltimore Colts player, into third place on the all-time list, with 294 touchdown throws.

The combination of his arm, the relentlessly powerful running of Terrell Davis, a protective offensive line and a no-nonsense defence have made the Broncos one of the most formidable units that the NFL has seen for many years.

All that is left now is for the Broncos to beat four teams with losing records and the Dolphins in Miami for the title to equal that single-season record of 17-0. Franchise expansion has increased the number of games that teams play in the NFL now, so, if Denver win the Super Bowl again, they would make it to 20 without defeat.

Others are finding their passage to the play-offs to be not quite so smooth. The Packers struggled to an unconvincing 24-16 win over the Philadelphia Eagles and the Dallas Cowboys lost the Thanksgiving Game 46-36 to the Minnesota Vikings. The Atlanta Falcons, though, sealed a play-off place with their 21-10 victory over the St Louis Cardinals.

The struggle has become particularly intense in the American Football Conference East division, where the Bills, the Dolphins, the New York Jets and the Patriots all have a fighting chance of making it to the post-season. In Massachusetts on Sunday, the Bills thought that they had stolen a march on the rest. They led the Patriots by 21-17 as the game entered its dying seconds, but



Jamal Anderson, of the Falcons, is tackled by Darnell Walker and Ken Norton, of San Francisco, in the Georgia Dome

Drew Bledsoe, the New England quarterback, orchestrated a chaotic, uproarious 82-yard drive that turned into one of the epic occasions of the season so far.

With 11 seconds left, Bledsoe completed a controversial fourth-down pass to Shawn Jefferson, who caught the ball just as it appeared that he had fallen out of bounds. To the disgust of the Bills, the play was allowed to stand.

Just six seconds were left now and Bledsoe was still 26 yards from the Buffalo end zone, so he lofted a "Hail Mary" pass — a hopeful, long throw in the general direction of his receivers and a group of Bills defencesmen. Terry Glenn, the Patriots receiver, leapt for the ball and dropped

it, but before the Bills could celebrate, the officials awarded a penalty to the Patriots.

Even though time had now expired, a game cannot end on a penalty, so the Patriots were allowed one last chance. This time, Bledsoe threw a perfect pass to Ben Coates, the tight end, in the end zone to put New England 23-21 ahead.

The Bills were so irate that they walked straight off before the conversion could be taken, allowing the Patriots to walk in a two-point gain. "Am I ticked off?" Sam Cash, the Bills full back, said afterwards. "You freaking bet I'm ticked off. For those officials to behave like that is just garbage. They cost us the game. We had something stolen from us."

NFL DETAILS

RESULTS: Baltimore 38 Indianapolis 31, Tampa Bay 31 Chicago 17, Jacksonville 24 Cincinnati 17, Kansas City 34 Arizona 24, New York Jets 48 Carolina 21, Atlanta 21 St Louis 10

American Conference					National Conference						
Eastern division					Eastern division						
W	L	T	F	A	W	L	T	F	A		
NY Jets	8	4	0	315	189	Dallas	8	4	0	325	217
Miami	7	4	0	231	188	Green Bay	6	5	0	251	208
Buffalo	7	5	0	288	236	NY Giants	4	7	0	188	226
New England	7	5	0	282	236	Washington	3	9	0	240	337
Indianapolis	2	10	0	206	338	Philadelphia	2	10	0	108	277
Central division					Central division						
Jacksonville	9	3	0	311	247	Minnesota	11	2	0	394	220
Pittsburgh	7	5	0	224	218	San Francisco	8	4	0	214	240
Tennessee	6	6	0	224	218	Detroit	5	7	0	244	263
Baltimore	5	7	0	203	247	Tampa Bay	5	7	0	223	250
Cincinnati	2	10	0	197	321	Chicago	3	9	0	197	276
Western division					Western division						
Denver	12	0	0	401	206	Atlanta	10	2	0	325	218
Oakland	7	5	0	293	244	San Francisco	8	3	0	323	237
Seattle	6	6	0	255	210	New Orleans	5	7	0	216	285
Kansas City	5	7	0	238	259	St Louis	3	9	0	207	285
San Diego	5	7	0	181	247	Carolina	2	10	0	226	322

won division title
 *qualified for play-offs
 Not including last night's match: San Francisco v New York Giants

ATHLETICS

Radcliffe seeks revival in fortunes

By David Powell
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

PAULA RADCLIFFE, who has failed to win an international championship since her junior days, though she has threatened often, will be seeking to make up for her anticlimactic summer season when she contests the European cross-country championships for the first time in Ferrara, Italy, on Sunday week.

A decisive victory in the Reebok cross-country race at Margate nine days ago convinced Radcliffe that she should accept her place in the Great Britain team, which was announced yesterday. Although she will arrive in Ferrara after only six weeks' training, and one race, she will start as favourite in the absence of Sonia O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan won the two titles this year that Radcliffe had coveted — the world cross country and European track 10,000 metres. However, the Irish athlete ended her competitive year after winning the Great North Run half-marathon in October. Her absence from Ferrara leaves the door open for Radcliffe to compensate for recent disappointments.

Radcliffe won the world junior cross-country title in 1992, since when she has finished runners-up twice in the senior event and been placed in the top five at the Olympic Games, world championships, and European championships. However, after suffering a virus, she managed only fifth place in the European 10,000 metres and withdrew from the Commonwealth Games.

Jon Brown, Radcliffe's opposite number as British 10,000 metres record-holder, has decided to concentrate on preparing for the world championships in Belfast next March, and the Flora London Marathon in April.

GREAT BRITAIN TEAMS: Men: P. Radcliffe (Sheffield), M. Cassidy (Newquay and Park), C. Cullen (Chesham), C. Stephenson (Cardiff), G. Bennett (Mansfield), G. Tomlinson (Coventry), G. Cochrane (Worcester), L. Elliott (Sheffield), H. Maslin (Cardiff), H. Patterson (Preston), P. Radcliffe (Sheffield), A. Wright (Preston)

SQUASH

Beachill justifies place at top table

From Colin McQuillan
IN DOHA, QATAR

ON THE day that the PSA world rankings for December replaced John Burrows as the inveterate French champion, at No 30 with his compatriot, Thierry Lincou, the organisers of the World Open championship here conspired to place them on adjacent courts.

Nothing could have better demonstrated the shifting generations of the men's international game. Bonnet struggled and complained in his familiar, squeaking style as he was dispatched in the first round by Lee Beachill, 15-11, 6-15, 15-9, 15-8 in 60 minutes. Lincou, 22, the strong and silent product of a French father and an Indo-Chinese mother, removed the Pakistani veteran, Zarak Jahan, 14-17, 15-5, 15-12, 15-12 with a display of powerful and accurate front-court volley work.

For Beachill, the Barmsey-based world No 54, who celebrated his 21st birthday by qualifying for the main draw on Saturday, the win consolidated his senior presence after a victory in a small Toronto tournament in October.

Some think that Beachill should have been world junior champion in the year that Ahmed Faizy took the title in Cairo amid heavy criticism of the lack of refereeing control over Egyptian tactics. Perhaps a point was proved when Faizy went down 15-11, 8-15, 15-11, 15-11 yesterday to Graham Ryder, of Canada.

Elsewhere yesterday, David Palmer, of Australia, defeated Derek Ryan 13-15, 15-8, 17-16, 15-13, spoiling the day on which the Irish champion made the world top ten for the first time. Jonathon Power, of Canada, the new world No 3 behind Peter Nicol, of Scotland, and Ahmed Faizy, of Egypt, beat Mansoor Zaman, of Pakistan, the Asian junior champion, 15-12, 15-8, 15-5.

The most notable elements of the PSA list, however, were the demotion of Rodney Eyles, the world champion, of Australia, from No 2 to No 7, and the appearance of Iancher Khan, the injured Pakistani, as low as No 8 for the first time in more than a decade.

Results, page 49

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES
Christmas CDs — £1.98 each

Today *The Times* offers readers five exclusive Christmas CDs for only £1.98 each — and if you buy the set of five for £9.90 you receive a FREE CD of 12 traditional Christmas hymns and carols sung by St Paul's Cathedral Choir.



- THE FIVE CDS ARE:**
- Gregorian Chants: Chants and Motets;
 - Bach's Christmas Oratorio;
 - Christmas Meditation;
 - Christmas for Brass
 - Home for Christmas, a wonderful collection of the best from Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra and Nat King Cole.

The prices include p&p to UK addresses. For Christmas delivery orders must be received by December 7; closing date is December 31, 1998.

TRACK LISTING: HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Bing Crosby: *White Christmas*; *Silver Bells*; *Adeste Fideles*; *Silent Night*.
 Frank Sinatra: *The Christmas Song*; *Jingle Bells*; *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*; *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*; *I'll Be Home For Christmas*; *O Little Town of Bethlehem*; *The Christmas Waltz*.
 Nat King Cole: *Santa Claus is Coming to Town*; *O Tannenbaum*; *The First Noel*; *Caroling*; *Caroling*; *Joy to the World*; *O Holy Night*.

THE TIMES CHRISTMAS CDS ORDER FORM

PRODUCT	CODE	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Gregorian Chants	XC01	£1.98		
Bach: Christmas Oratorio	XC02	£1.98		
Christmas Meditation	XC03	£1.98		
Christmas for Brass	XC04	£1.98		
Home for Christmas: Sinatra, Crosby, Cole	XC05	£1.98		
All 5 CDS PLUS FREE CD - XC01/02/03/04/05/06				£9.90
St Paul's Cathedral Choir				

Republic of Ireland & EC (EUR01) £6
 Rest of the world (ROW01) £10
TOTAL £

I enclose a cheque/PO for £ _____ made payable to CD Ltd. Please write your name, address and cheque card number on the back of your cheque.
 Send to: *The Times* Christmas Collection, PO Box 1000, Newcastle upon Tyne X, NE8S 2BS

Credit Card Payment Card number: _____
 Expiry date: ____/____
 MasterCard/Access Visa

Name on card _____
 Supply address of registered cardholder on a separate sheet of paper if different from left
 Signature _____
 Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive further offers from *The Times* or other companies

Postcode _____ Day Tel _____ AD1201

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT
 The London Trophy is a bridge competition open to 'non-bridge' clubs. Danny Roth, whose books *Focus on Declarer Play* and *Focus on Defence* have been well received, describes this hand from the 1998 final (won by the Law Society).

Dealer North	East-West game	Total points
♠ KQ104	♠ KQJ875	♠ 8853
♥ 108	♥ K109	♥ 8943
♦ J8753	♦ A7	♦ 8643
♣ Q107	♣ A64	♣ AKJ952

W N E S
 Pass 3H Pass 2C
 Pass 3H Pass 4D
 Pass 5D Pass 7D
 All Pass

Contract: Seven Diamonds by South. Lead: two of spades.

What went wrong here? The main fault was North's initial jump rebid of Three Hearts. For a hand to be worth a jump rebid it needs a good six-card suit and at least a king better than a minimum. But I think a more practical approach on the North hand, as Roth suggests, is to downgrade it after South's response has been in the void suit. Also, if North considers his hand worth Three Hearts, it is better to bid Two Spades, which shows similar strength.

After South had heard Three Hearts he was quite entitled to get excited. Over Four Diamonds North was in difficulties. He would have liked to retreat to Three No-Trumps. A bid of Four No-Trumps with no suit agreed should be natural, but no partner ever accepts it as such. I think he would have done better to rebid Four Hearts.

The sequence would have gone much better if North had bid Two Hearts on the first round. Even if North-South then bid a slam, it is likely to be in the best denomination, i.e. no-trumps. (In Six No-Trumps, if the defence take the ace of hearts on the first or second round, declarer can test the hearts and still survive if they are 4-2, if he can make four tricks in each of spades and diamonds.)

For details of the 1999 event, telephone Cecil Leighton on 0181 500 0700.

Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene, CHESS CORRESPONDENT
Wrexham highlights

Today I continue with a further selection of best games from the important all-play-all Owens Corning tournament at Wrexham. In the first game a sacrificial attack leads to an ultimate win of material for if 24... Bxg4 25 Ne7+, while in the second White blunders in a tense situation.

White: Dinley Black: Pedersen
 Owens Corning Wrexham 1998

1 e4 e5
 2 d4 d5
 3 Nf3 Nf6
 4 e5 Nf7
 5 Bc3 e5
 6 c3 Nf6
 7 Ne2 Qb6
 8 Nf3 c4
 9 c3d4 Nf5
 10 e5f6 Nf5
 11 0-0 Bf6
 12 b3 0-0
 13 Bf4 Bf7
 14 Nd4 Bf7
 15 Rc1 Re8
 16 Bb1 Nf8
 17 g3 e5
 18 Rc2 Nf4
 19 d5 Nf5
 20 e5 Nf5
 21 Nd4 Qc8
 22 Qg4 Rf1
 23 Ng5 Nf5
 24 Rc1

Black resigns



WINNING MOVE
 By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Borvink — Keres, USSR team championship 1966. The key to this position is White's powerful pawn on g6. How did he capitalise on this to force a quick win?

Solution on page 50

WORD-WATCHING
 By Philip Howard

BASHA
 a. A bamboo hut
 b. A Turkish dignitary
 c. A catfish

AKASA
 a. A flowing gown
 b. Speechlessness
 c. An element

BURGOB
 a. Soup
 b. A banner
 c. An arrow slit

FLETTON
 a. A crossbow quarrel
 b. A Flemish jerkin
 c. A brick

Answers on page 50

THE TIMES TUESDAY
 RUGBY UN...
Woody waiting on Gra...
 By David Hand...
 Rev...
 For Acc...
 TESSA
 Monthly...
 Brighter...
 TESSA
 Monthly...
 Brighter...
 TESSA
 Monthly...
 Brighter...

CRICKET

England salvage pride despite crushing defeat

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN PERTH

PERTH (third day of five): Australia beat England by seven wickets

GRAEME HICK has earned an extension of his touring duties and, maybe, a new beginning to his fractured and unfulfilled England career.

These were the unforeseeable positives that England could take yesterday from a Test-match defeat of savage speed.

It seems that Hick is here for the duration. Summoned from the English winter as temporary cover for Michael Atherton, he was hurried into this game to replace Graham Thorpe, another martyr to backache.

Desolate at being omitted from the initial squad, Hick may now be in a position to usurp John Crawley, the man chosen ahead of him, in the first-choice England team.

Alec Stewart, the England captain, reported last night that Hick, who had a home-ward air ticket booked for two days ago, was almost certain to be retained.

Remarkably, Hick is restarting a Test career for the sixth time. In contrast, Tudor is barely baptised at this level, yet the composure that he showed during a debut of almost uninterrupted promise means that his life will change.

specimen of the selectors. Tudor took five wickets here, but is not certain to play in the next Test, which is on a slower pitch in Adelaide.

Predictably, Stewart was more cautious. "Let's not get overexcited," he said. "It's too easy to get giddy about someone new."

Hick and Ramprakash resumed yesterday with England still two runs adrift and took their sixth-wicket stand to 91, the biggest of the match.

The pitch was now at its most placid and Hick continued to trade blows with the Australians by pulling liberally. He did not bat without blemish, but, by any standards, it was an innings of flair by a man who refuses to be forgotten.

Dominic Cork is not having an impressive series and his place must be vulnerable, but he batted courageously now, helping Ramprakash to add a further 31 and continuing after a bounce from Damien Fleming, the man of the match, that became embedded between the bars of his helmet grille.

When Cork did fall, spinning away as if giving himself

out to Gillespie's leg-before shout, the end for England was as swift as the match itself.

The last three England batsmen failed to score a run between them, sustaining one of the side's great failings.

As it was, Mullally produced a beauty to have Taylor taken at second slip, Gough held a leading edge from Slater and Tudor produced a booming lifter to dispose of Justin Langer.

As it was, Mullally produced a beauty to have Taylor taken at second slip, Gough held a leading edge from Slater and Tudor produced a booming lifter to dispose of Justin Langer.



Gillespie, the Australia fast bowler, takes to the air after dismissing Gough for a duck

FULL SCOREBOARD FROM PERTH

Table containing cricket scoreboards for Australia's first and second innings, and England's first and second innings. It lists batsmen, runs, and bowlers with their figures.

South Africa stagger over finishing line

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN JOHANNESBURG

THE WANDERERS (last day of five): South Africa beat West Indies by four wickets

AFTER four days of tense, attritional and, for the most part, emotionally charged cricket from both sides, it was South Africa who held their nerve to reach a far from straightforward victory target of 164 runs for the loss of six wickets shortly before tea on the final day of the first Test match at The Wanderers.

At stake was far more than the lead in this five-match series. The internal wrangles of the West Indies team are far from settled but South Africa, too, were vulnerable after their defeat in England last summer which, Hansie Cronje, the captain, has admitted, had severely affected the spirit of the side.

Furthermore, South Africa were reminded at every opportunity before the start of play of the events in Barbados six years ago when, chasing 201 for victory in their first Test after readmission to international cricket, they crumbled, losing their last six wickets for six runs on the final day.

The destroyers on that occasion were Courtney Walsh and Curtly Ambrose and when the pair combined again to remove both openers for 14 runs in the morning, the sense of foreboding was tangible.

A heavily cracked playing surface of unreliable bounce would only have added to the South African's uncertainties, particularly when Gary Kirsten fell to a ball from Ambrose that rose steeply from a length to take the left-hander's outside edge in the ninth over.

It was Daryll Cullinan who first suggested that South Africa would show the strength of character required to reach their target. He may have been dismissed shortly before lunch, when he pulled Nixon McLean to Stuart Williams, who held a heart-stopping,

juggling catch at mid-wicket, but his 35 from 64 balls had supplied the decisive initiative, allowing Jacques Kallis, who was undefeated on 57 at the end to play patiently in support.

West Indies were not without their chances, however. Cronje, with Allan Donald the only survivor in the side from the Caribbean tour of 1992, had not yet faced a ball when Shivnarine Chanderpaul failed to hit the wicket from point with the South Africa captain well short of his ground.

The remainder of the over saw Cronje play a flat-batted drive through the covers and contained two further no-balls. Brian Lara had no option but to concede psychological ground by resting his most likely wicket-keeper.

Cronje eventually top-edged a pull off McLean for 31 and Jonty Rhodes fell cheaply to an outside edge off Walsh, but Kallis, who went on to score his second half-century of the match off 113 balls, never lapsed in composure as South Africa closed in on their target. It is a measure of how far Kallis has progressed since making his international debut during the England tour here three years ago that the 23-year-old is now regarded as a senior player of the side.

With the scores level, Shaun Pollock clipped Ambrose, who was brought back belatedly into the attack, to Chanderpaul at square leg, but Mark Boucher struck his second ball behind point for the winning runs.

Lara, whose captaincy ranged from the imaginative to the incomprehensible, has plenty to think about before the second Test in Port Elizabeth, starting on December 10, not least the groin injury to Carl Hooper. To add insult to injury, the West Indies players were fined 10 per cent of their match fee for their slow over-rate during South Africa's first innings.

SCOREBOARD FROM THE WANDERERS

Table containing cricket scoreboards for West Indies' first and second innings, and South Africa's first and second innings. It lists batsmen, runs, and bowlers with their figures.

Advertisement for BT Conferencing. Text: 'Call far-flung family or friends FREE at Christmas. 30 minutes of four-way conversation.' Includes a photo of a woman on a phone and the BT logo.

Aamir hits out at selectors. BY OUR SPORTS STAFF. PESHAWAR (fourth day of five): Zimbabwe beat Pakistan by seven wickets.

AAMIR SOHAIL, the Pakistan captain, criticised the country's selectors after his side's seven-wicket defeat against Zimbabwe in the first Test in Peshawar.

Pakistan lost their first home series against Australia for 39 years in October and Aamir responded to the latest setback by saying: "It's very demoralising. The team is really very disappointed."

Questioned on his future as captain, he said: "It's up to the board and I am considering my options. We have lost one match, and I will think about it. The whole problem is of selection and we have failed to form a combination. We had a green-top wicket and had two spinners in the squad. We had no options, no variety," he said.

Aamir denied that some senior players are not co-operating with him, saying: "This is not correct, because if they do badly their heads are also on the chopping block. I am helpless at the moment and play with whatever I am given. I will have to think about it and I will not back out from responsibility, but now they [the selection committee] will have to listen to me."

Aamir also criticised the process of preparing pitches after his team had come unstuck on a green, untypical Pakistan wicket. He praised Zimbabwe: "They played good cricket all through and deserved to win, and our batting flopped in the second innings," he said.

Murray Goodwin scored 75 not out as Zimbabwe made 162 for three in the second innings to record their third win in 32 Tests, with a day and two full sessions to spare. Pakistan had collapsed to 103 all out in their second innings.

The second Test in the three-match series begins in Lahore on December 10.

Advertisement for Revised Interest Rates. Includes a table with columns for Account, Amount Invested, and Gross %. Below the table is a coupon for requesting a copy of the rates.

Vertical advertisement on the right edge of the page, partially cut off. Visible text includes 'THE TIMES', 'FOOD', 'Viall', 'take', 'chan', 'rem', and 'SCORE WITH A FREE'.

FOOTBALL

Vialli will take no chances in rematch

By Matt Dickinson and Nick Szczepanik

GIANLUCA VIALLI is expected to select himself in the Chelsea starting line-up tonight, a decision that will underline his... and his clubs' determination to retain the Worthington Cup.

ceptible to Leaburn and Gayle's aerial threat, as was shown a fortnight ago. "They have beaten us comprehensively 3-0 already this season," Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said, "and there were lessons to be learnt from that. That match proved conclusively that Chelsea have an immense strength in depth ahead of them this season, with their squad now probably on a par with Manchester United in respect of the players Vialli can bring in."



Kinnear: determined

ford Bridge a fortnight ago that Desailly, Di Matteo and company could be forgiven for swaggering across London this evening, but they can be certain that this match will not be so easy.

With Gareth Ainsworth cup-tied, the return of Michael Hughes from suspension is a timely boost, because the midfielder player is Wimbledon's most incisive passer. He will need to be at his creative best now that the Chelsea defence, thanks to Desailly's imposing presence, is no longer as sus-

ceptible to Leaburn and Gayle's aerial threat, as was shown a fortnight ago. "They have beaten us comprehensively 3-0 already this season," Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said, "and there were lessons to be learnt from that. That match proved conclusively that Chelsea have an immense strength in depth ahead of them this season, with their squad now probably on a par with Manchester United in respect of the players Vialli can bring in."

ceptible to Leaburn and Gayle's aerial threat, as was shown a fortnight ago. "They have beaten us comprehensively 3-0 already this season," Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said, "and there were lessons to be learnt from that. That match proved conclusively that Chelsea have an immense strength in depth ahead of them this season, with their squad now probably on a par with Manchester United in respect of the players Vialli can bring in."



Di Canio, right, returns to Hillsborough yesterday, where he was welcomed by Wilson, the Wednesday manager

Di Canio pushing for return

By Richard Hobson

PAOLO DI CANIO has pledged to control the tempo that provoked one of the most shameful incidents on a football field in recent memory. A period of purgatory in his native Italy behind him, the errant Sheffield Wednesday striker is back in full training and preparing for his return to the FA Cup Carling Premiership, against Leicester City at Hillsborough on Boxing Day.

schedule. He cited depression as the reason for the delay and if that appears to have cleared, then it might have been replaced by amnesia, given the way that he has managed to put the assault on Alcock to the back of his mind. "I hope for the future of Di Canio this makes me a better player, but I do not need to become a better person because I think I am a normal person anyway," he said.

Canio this makes me a better player, but I do not need to become a better person because I think I am a normal person anyway," he said. "It was not a violent reaction. Sometimes I need to control my temper. It is not in my normal game to push the referee, but I have my character. I feel like I have been in Italy for 50 days. I cannot remember anything about this time because I am sad with not playing in matches, especially when my team has not been doing well. It has been difficult to keep in contact because I am so far away and also I do not speak great English."

Arsenal fail to lure French prodigy

ARSENAL'S latest attempt to lure youthful French flair to Highbury appears to have drawn a blank (Russell Kinnear writes). Steed Malbranque, billed by many as the next big thing of French football, has announced his intention to stay with Lyons instead of moving to the FA Carling Premiership or Serie A, in Italy.

Canio this makes me a better player, but I do not need to become a better person because I think I am a normal person anyway," he said. "It was not a violent reaction. Sometimes I need to control my temper. It is not in my normal game to push the referee, but I have my character. I feel like I have been in Italy for 50 days. I cannot remember anything about this time because I am sad with not playing in matches, especially when my team has not been doing well. It has been difficult to keep in contact because I am so far away and also I do not speak great English."

Malbranque, 18, is a regular in the France Under-21 side but is still a trainee with Lyons and has yet to agree his first professional contract. The circumstances are similar to when Arsene Wenger, the Arsenal manager, signed Nicolas Anelka

Canio this makes me a better player, but I do not need to become a better person because I think I am a normal person anyway," he said. "It was not a violent reaction. Sometimes I need to control my temper. It is not in my normal game to push the referee, but I have my character. I feel like I have been in Italy for 50 days. I cannot remember anything about this time because I am sad with not playing in matches, especially when my team has not been doing well. It has been difficult to keep in contact because I am so far away and also I do not speak great English."

Simoni gets marching orders at Inter

By Rob Hughes

IN ITALIAN football, the hire and fire game is a little different. Luigi Simoni, the coach who replaced Roy Hodgson at Internazionale, was dismissed yesterday. His side beat Real Madrid, the European champions, and won a Serie A match in the space of four days; Inter are one win away from the European Cup quarter-finals — and all that is not enough.

Simoni was asked to hand in his tracksuit as Mircea Lucescu, his immediate successor, was flown in from Bucharest. The Romanian is a stop-gap until the end of the season, when Marcello Lippi, the redoubtable Juventus coach, is expected to take command at Inter.

Why should Massimo Moratti, the oil magnate who presides over his father's former club, rotate his coaches so? Because, with Ronaldo, Roberto Baggio, Ivan Zamorano, Youn Djourkief, Nwankwo Kanu, Alvaro Recoba and Nicola Pietrangola, he bankrolls a wealth of scoring talents that ought to be winning matches more impressively than they do.

Moratti might pay Lippi's asking price of £3 million a year to make Inter great again. Meanwhile, Ronaldo needs nursing through chronic knee pain and Lucescu, a former winger and a multi-talented, will attempt to do for Inter what he did for Romania: Blend disparate talents through team spirit. Terry Venables, the Crystal Palace manager, was cleared yesterday over the signing of three Australian players for Portsmouth. Detectives investigating the transfer of players to the club while it was under his control confirmed that they had found no evidence of "dishonesty or corruption". Venables was also the coach of the Australia national team at the time of the transfers.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Struggling Arrows may fall to takeover

MOTOR RACING: The Arrows Formula One team could fall victim to a German takeover within weeks or be saved by the financial backing of a Nigerian prince. (Kevin Eason writes).

The team, run by Tom Walkinshaw's TWR company, is struggling financially. A takeover, worth about £40 million, by Zakspeed would mean Arrows' headquarters being moved from Oxfordshire to Germany and would jeopardise up to 200 jobs.

However, Prince Malik Ado Ibrahim has also emerged as an unlikely saviour. A friend of Walkinshaw's, the Prince is thought to be offering to take a stake in the business.

EQUESTRIANISM: Karen Dixon, a member of the Great Britain bronze medal-winning team at the world championships in Rome in September, is expecting her first baby in March next year.

Dixon, 34, told only her husband, Andrew, and doctor before competing in Rome. "I thought Giles Rowsell [the team manager] had enough worries with so many riders dropping out without burdening him with another one," she said.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Paul Caddick, the millionaire owner of Leeds Rhinos, has made a £600,000 offer to take over Hull Kingston Rovers, the first division club that has been in administration for nearly two years. Caddick, a property developer, wants to include the club in plans for a new stadium in Hull, which could also house Hull Sharks and Hull City Football Club.

RUGBY UNION: Steve Freeman, 22, a lock forward with Marnock RFC in Gloucester, who allegedly bit off part of an opponent's ear, has been banned from the game for more than 2½ years. His victim, Mark Goldsmith, of the Penzance and Newlyn club, has been banned until December 21 this year for his behaviour leading up to the incident.

ICE HOCKEY: Ayr Scottish Eagles aim to secure their place in the second round of the European Cup tonight. The Eagles need only a point from their final divisional game against Mannheim in Germany.

FOR THE RECORD

BOWLS: KELVIN HALL, Glasgow (Glasgow Club): 17.5 (1st), 18.5 (2nd), 19.5 (3rd), 20.5 (4th), 21.5 (5th), 22.5 (6th), 23.5 (7th), 24.5 (8th), 25.5 (9th), 26.5 (10th), 27.5 (11th), 28.5 (12th), 29.5 (13th), 30.5 (14th), 31.5 (15th), 32.5 (16th), 33.5 (17th), 34.5 (18th), 35.5 (19th), 36.5 (20th), 37.5 (21st), 38.5 (22nd), 39.5 (23rd), 40.5 (24th), 41.5 (25th), 42.5 (26th), 43.5 (27th), 44.5 (28th), 45.5 (29th), 46.5 (30th), 47.5 (31st), 48.5 (32nd), 49.5 (33rd), 50.5 (34th), 51.5 (35th), 52.5 (36th), 53.5 (37th), 54.5 (38th), 55.5 (39th), 56.5 (40th), 57.5 (41st), 58.5 (42nd), 59.5 (43rd), 60.5 (44th), 61.5 (45th), 62.5 (46th), 63.5 (47th), 64.5 (48th), 65.5 (49th), 66.5 (50th), 67.5 (51st), 68.5 (52nd), 69.5 (53rd), 70.5 (54th), 71.5 (55th), 72.5 (56th), 73.5 (57th), 74.5 (58th), 75.5 (59th), 76.5 (60th), 77.5 (61st), 78.5 (62nd), 79.5 (63rd), 80.5 (64th), 81.5 (65th), 82.5 (66th), 83.5 (67th), 84.5 (68th), 85.5 (69th), 86.5 (70th), 87.5 (71st), 88.5 (72nd), 89.5 (73rd), 90.5 (74th), 91.5 (75th), 92.5 (76th), 93.5 (77th), 94.5 (78th), 95.5 (79th), 96.5 (80th), 97.5 (81st), 98.5 (82nd), 99.5 (83rd), 100.5 (84th), 101.5 (85th), 102.5 (86th), 103.5 (87th), 104.5 (88th), 105.5 (89th), 106.5 (90th), 107.5 (91st), 108.5 (92nd), 109.5 (93rd), 110.5 (94th), 111.5 (95th), 112.5 (96th), 113.5 (97th), 114.5 (98th), 115.5 (99th), 116.5 (100th), 117.5 (101st), 118.5 (102nd), 119.5 (103rd), 120.5 (104th), 121.5 (105th), 122.5 (106th), 123.5 (107th), 124.5 (108th), 125.5 (109th), 126.5 (110th), 127.5 (111th), 128.5 (112th), 129.5 (113th), 130.5 (114th), 131.5 (115th), 132.5 (116th), 133.5 (117th), 134.5 (118th), 135.5 (119th), 136.5 (120th), 137.5 (121st), 138.5 (122nd), 139.5 (123rd), 140.5 (124th), 141.5 (125th), 142.5 (126th), 143.5 (127th), 144.5 (128th), 145.5 (129th), 146.5 (130th), 147.5 (131st), 148.5 (132nd), 149.5 (133rd), 150.5 (134th), 151.5 (135th), 152.5 (136th), 153.5 (137th), 154.5 (138th), 155.5 (139th), 156.5 (140th), 157.5 (141st), 158.5 (142nd), 159.5 (143rd), 160.5 (144th), 161.5 (145th), 162.5 (146th), 163.5 (147th), 164.5 (148th), 165.5 (149th), 166.5 (150th), 167.5 (151st), 168.5 (152nd), 169.5 (153rd), 170.5 (154th), 171.5 (155th), 172.5 (156th), 173.5 (157th), 174.5 (158th), 175.5 (159th), 176.5 (160th), 177.5 (161st), 178.5 (162nd), 179.5 (163rd), 180.5 (164th), 181.5 (165th), 182.5 (166th), 183.5 (167th), 184.5 (168th), 185.5 (169th), 186.5 (170th), 187.5 (171st), 188.5 (172nd), 189.5 (173rd), 190.5 (174th), 191.5 (175th), 192.5 (176th), 193.5 (177th), 194.5 (178th), 195.5 (179th), 196.5 (180th), 197.5 (181st), 198.5 (182nd), 199.5 (183rd), 200.5 (184th), 201.5 (185th), 202.5 (186th), 203.5 (187th), 204.5 (188th), 205.5 (189th), 206.5 (190th), 207.5 (191st), 208.5 (192nd), 209.5 (193rd), 210.5 (194th), 211.5 (195th), 212.5 (196th), 213.5 (197th), 214.5 (198th), 215.5 (199th), 216.5 (200th), 217.5 (201st), 218.5 (202nd), 219.5 (203rd), 220.5 (204th), 221.5 (205th), 222.5 (206th), 223.5 (207th), 224.5 (208th), 225.5 (209th), 226.5 (210th), 227.5 (211st), 228.5 (212nd), 229.5 (213rd), 230.5 (214th), 231.5 (215th), 232.5 (216th), 233.5 (217th), 234.5 (218th), 235.5 (219th), 236.5 (220th), 237.5 (221st), 238.5 (222nd), 239.5 (223rd), 240.5 (224th), 241.5 (225th), 242.5 (226th), 243.5 (227th), 244.5 (228th), 245.5 (229th), 246.5 (230th), 247.5 (231st), 248.5 (232nd), 249.5 (233rd), 250.5 (234th), 251.5 (235th), 252.5 (236th), 253.5 (237th), 254.5 (238th), 255.5 (239th), 256.5 (240th), 257.5 (241st), 258.5 (242nd), 259.5 (243rd), 260.5 (244th), 261.5 (245th), 262.5 (246th), 263.5 (247th), 264.5 (248th), 265.5 (249th), 266.5 (250th), 267.5 (251st), 268.5 (252nd), 269.5 (253rd), 270.5 (254th), 271.5 (255th), 272.5 (256th), 273.5 (257th), 274.5 (258th), 275.5 (259th), 276.5 (260th), 277.5 (261st), 278.5 (262nd), 279.5 (263rd), 280.5 (264th), 281.5 (265th), 282.5 (266th), 283.5 (267th), 284.5 (268th), 285.5 (269th), 286.5 (270th), 287.5 (271st), 288.5 (272nd), 289.5 (273rd), 290.5 (274th), 291.5 (275th), 292.5 (276th), 293.5 (277th), 294.5 (278th), 295.5 (279th), 296.5 (280th), 297.5 (281st), 298.5 (282nd), 299.5 (283rd), 300.5 (284th), 301.5 (285th), 302.5 (286th), 303.5 (287th), 304.5 (288th), 305.5 (289th), 306.5 (290th), 307.5 (291st), 308.5 (292nd), 309.5 (293rd), 310.5 (294th), 311.5 (295th), 312.5 (296th), 313.5 (297th), 314.5 (298th), 315.5 (299th), 316.5 (300th), 317.5 (301st), 318.5 (302nd), 319.5 (303rd), 320.5 (304th), 321.5 (305th), 322.5 (306th), 323.5 (307th), 324.5 (308th), 325.5 (309th), 326.5 (310th), 327.5 (311st), 328.5 (312nd), 329.5 (313rd), 330.5 (314th), 331.5 (315th), 332.5 (316th), 333.5 (317th), 334.5 (318th), 335.5 (319th), 336.5 (320th), 337.5 (321st), 338.5 (322nd), 339.5 (323rd), 340.5 (324th), 341.5 (325th), 342.5 (326th), 343.5 (327th), 344.5 (328th), 345.5 (329th), 346.5 (330th), 347.5 (331st), 348.5 (332nd), 349.5 (333rd), 350.5 (334th), 351.5 (335th), 352.5 (336th), 353.5 (337th), 354.5 (338th), 355.5 (339th), 356.5 (340th), 357.5 (341st), 358.5 (342nd), 359.5 (343rd), 360.5 (344th), 361.5 (345th), 362.5 (346th), 363.5 (347th), 364.5 (348th), 365.5 (349th), 366.5 (350th), 367.5 (351st), 368.5 (352nd), 369.5 (353rd), 370.5 (354th), 371.5 (355th), 372.5 (356th), 373.5 (357th), 374.5 (358th), 375.5 (359th), 376.5 (360th), 377.5 (361st), 378.5 (362nd), 379.5 (363rd), 380.5 (364th), 381.5 (365th), 382.5 (366th), 383.5 (367th), 384.5 (368th), 385.5 (369th), 386.5 (370th), 387.5 (371st), 388.5 (372nd), 389.5 (373rd), 390.5 (374th), 391.5 (375th), 392.5 (376th), 393.5 (377th), 394.5 (378th), 395.5 (379th), 396.5 (380th), 397.5 (381st), 398.5 (382nd), 399.5 (383rd), 400.5 (384th), 401.5 (385th), 402.5 (386th), 403.5 (387th), 404.5 (388th), 405.5 (389th), 406.5 (390th), 407.5 (391st), 408.5 (392nd), 409.5 (393rd), 410.5 (394th), 411.5 (395th), 412.5 (396th), 413.5 (397th), 414.5 (398th), 415.5 (399th), 416.5 (400th), 417.5 (401st), 418.5 (402nd), 419.5 (403rd), 420.5 (404th), 421.5 (405th), 422.5 (406th), 423.5 (407th), 424.5 (408th), 425.5 (409th), 426.5 (410th), 427.5 (411st), 428.5 (412nd), 429.5 (413rd), 430.5 (414th), 431.5 (415th), 432.5 (416th), 433.5 (417th), 434.5 (418th), 435.5 (419th), 436.5 (420th), 437.5 (421st), 438.5 (422nd), 439.5 (423rd), 440.5 (424th), 441.5 (425th), 442.5 (426th), 443.5 (427th), 444.5 (428th), 445.5 (429th), 446.5 (430th), 447.5 (431st), 448.5 (432nd), 449.5 (433rd), 450.5 (434th), 451.5 (435th), 452.5 (436th), 453.5 (437th), 454.5 (438th), 455.5 (439th), 456.5 (440th), 457.5 (441st), 458.5 (442nd), 459.5 (443rd), 460.5 (444th), 461.5 (445th), 462.5 (446th), 463.5 (447th), 464.5 (448th), 465.5 (449th), 466.5 (450th), 467.5 (451st), 468.5 (452nd), 469.5 (453rd), 470.5 (454th), 471.5 (455th), 472.5 (456th), 473.5 (457th), 474.5 (458th), 475.5 (459th), 476.5 (460th), 477.5 (461st), 478.5 (462nd), 479.5 (463rd), 480.5 (464th), 481.5 (465th), 482.5 (466th), 483.5 (467th), 484.5 (468th), 485.5 (469th), 486.5 (470th), 487.5 (471st), 488.5 (472nd), 489.5 (473rd), 490.5 (474th), 491.5 (475th), 492.5 (476th), 493.5 (477th), 494.5 (478th), 495.5 (479th), 496.5 (480th), 497.5 (481st), 498.5 (482nd), 499.5 (483rd), 500.5 (484th), 501.5 (485th), 502.5 (486th), 503.5 (487th), 504.5 (488th), 505.5 (489th), 506.5 (490th), 507.5 (491st), 508.5 (492nd), 509.5 (493rd), 510.5 (494th), 511.5 (495th), 512.5 (496th), 513.5 (497th), 514.5 (498th), 515.5 (499th), 516.5 (500th), 517.5 (501st), 518.5 (502nd), 519.5 (503rd), 520.5 (504th), 521.5 (505th), 522.5 (506th), 523.5 (507th), 524.5 (508th), 525.5 (509th), 526.5 (510th), 527.5 (511st), 528.5 (512nd), 529.5 (513rd), 530.5 (514th), 531.5 (515th), 532.5 (516th), 533.5 (517th), 534.5 (518th), 535.5 (519th), 536.5 (520th), 537.5 (521st), 538.5 (522nd), 539.5 (523rd), 540.5 (524th), 541.5 (525th), 542.5 (526th), 543.5 (527th), 544.5 (528th), 545.5 (529th), 546.5 (530th), 547.5 (531st), 548.5 (532nd), 549.5 (533rd), 550.5 (534th), 551.5 (535th), 552.5 (536th), 553.5 (537th), 554.5 (538th), 555.5 (539th), 556.5 (540th), 557.5 (541st), 558.5 (542nd), 559.5 (543rd), 560.5 (544th), 561.5 (545th), 562.5 (546th), 563.5 (547th), 564.5 (548th), 565.5 (549th), 566.5 (550th), 567.5 (551st), 568.5 (552nd), 569.5 (553rd), 570.5 (554th), 571.5 (555th), 572.5 (556th), 573.5 (557th), 574.5 (558th), 575.5 (559th), 576.5 (560th), 577.5 (561st), 578.5 (562nd), 579.5 (563rd), 580.5 (564th), 581.5 (565th), 582.5 (566th), 583.5 (567th), 584.5 (568th), 585.5 (569th), 586.5 (570th), 587.5 (571st), 588.5 (572nd), 589.5 (573rd), 590.5 (574th), 591.5 (575th), 592.5 (576th), 593.5 (577th), 594.5 (578th), 595.5 (579th), 596.5 (580th), 597.5 (581st), 598.5 (582nd), 599.5 (583rd), 600.5 (584th), 601.5 (585th), 602.5 (586th), 603.5 (587th), 604.5 (588th), 605.5 (589th), 606.5 (590th), 607.5 (591st), 608.5 (592nd), 609.5 (593rd), 610.5 (594th), 611.5 (595th), 612.5 (596th), 613.5 (597th), 614.5 (598th), 615.5 (599th), 616.5 (600th), 617.5 (601st), 618.5 (602nd), 619.5 (603rd), 620.5 (604th), 621.5 (605th), 622.5 (606th), 623.5 (607th), 624.5 (608th), 625.5 (609th), 626.5 (610th), 627.5 (611st), 628.5 (612nd), 629.5 (613rd), 630.5 (614th), 631.5 (615th), 632.5 (616th), 633.5 (617th), 634.5 (618th), 635.5 (619th), 636.5 (620th), 637.5 (621st), 638.5 (622nd), 639.5 (623rd), 640.5 (624th), 641.5 (625th), 642.5 (626th), 643.5 (627th), 644.5 (628th), 645.5 (629th), 646.5 (630th), 647.5 (631st), 648.5 (632nd), 649.5 (633rd), 650.5 (634th), 651.5 (635th), 652.5 (636th), 653.5 (637th), 654.5 (638th), 655.5 (639th), 656.5 (640th), 657.5 (641st), 658.5 (642nd), 659.5 (643rd), 660.5 (644th), 661.5 (645th), 662.5 (646th), 663.5 (647th), 664.5 (648th), 665.5 (649th), 666.5 (650th), 667.5 (651st), 668.5 (652nd), 669.5 (653rd), 670.5 (654th), 671.5 (655th), 672.5 (656th), 673.5 (657th), 674.5 (658th), 675.5 (659th), 676.5 (660th), 677.5 (661st), 678.5 (662nd), 679.5 (663rd), 680.5 (664th), 681.5 (665th), 682.5 (666th), 683.5 (667th), 684.5 (668th), 685.5 (669th), 686.5 (670th), 687.5 (671st), 688.5 (672nd), 689.5 (673rd), 690.5 (674th), 691.5 (675th), 692.5 (676th), 693.5 (677th), 694.5 (678th), 695.5 (679th), 696.5 (680th), 697.5 (681st), 698.5 (682nd), 699.5 (683rd), 700.5 (684th), 701.5 (685th), 702.5 (686th), 703.5 (687th), 704.5 (688th), 705.5 (689th), 706.5 (690th), 707.5 (691st), 708.5 (692nd), 709.5 (693rd), 710.5 (694th), 711.5 (695th), 712.5 (696th), 713.5 (697th), 714.5 (698th), 715.5 (699th), 716.5 (700th), 717.5 (701st), 718.5 (702nd), 719.5 (703rd), 720.5 (704th), 721.5 (705th), 722.5 (706th), 723.5 (707th), 724.5 (708th), 725.5 (709th), 726.5 (710th), 727.5 (711st), 728.5 (712nd), 729.5 (713rd), 730.5 (714th), 731.5 (715th), 732.5 (716th), 733.5 (717th), 734.5 (718th), 735.5 (719th), 736.5 (720th), 737.5 (721st), 738.5 (722nd), 739.5 (723rd), 740.5 (724th), 741.5 (725th), 742.5 (726th), 743.5 (727th), 744.5 (728th), 745.5 (729th), 746.5 (730th), 747.5 (731st), 748.5 (732nd), 749.5 (733rd), 750.5 (734th), 751.5 (735th), 752.5 (736th), 753.5 (737th), 754.5 (738th), 755.5 (739th), 756.5 (740th), 757.5 (741st), 758.5 (742nd), 759.5 (743rd), 760.5 (744th), 761.5 (745th), 762.5 (746th), 763.5 (747th), 764.5 (748th), 765.5 (749th), 766.5 (750th), 767.5 (751st), 768.5 (752nd), 769.5 (753rd), 770.5 (754th), 771.5 (755th), 772.5 (756th), 773.5 (757th), 774.5 (758th), 7

Starting afresh in southern Mississippi

WC Fields, who thought that anybody who hates children and dogs can't be all bad, wouldn't have made a guest list of the annual adoption picnics which Sylvia Sessions in South Mississippi: they are her way of bringing together prospective parents and environment-friendly children in an environment where adults can be seduced by a child's personality before they get the chance to be scared off by a detailed report on that child's history of emotional damage. Many of these children — through misfortune more than malice — have grown into teenagers with troubled pasts, the hardest children for whom to find welcoming families.

Joanna Head's moving film for Witness (Channel 4) monitored this emotional marketplace for the first time, and the more we heard of how desperately these children crave affection — 14-year-old Lacy, who has spent the last five years in

care, years for nothing more extravagant than to have somebody who'll witness her graduating when the time comes, to have somebody pay you on the back and say how proud they are of you, "That's my daughter", you know? — the clearer it became that Sylvia Sessions is one of those people who quietly does more to create happiness for more people than a score of politicians.

The system basically works on the reverse principle to that of estate agents' particulars. The written details you receive from estate agents always make a house or flat sound as if it's the one that's going to be perfect, the sort of place you'll fall in love with the minute you open the front door — no redecoration required, no damp, no dry rot, a kitchen that doesn't look as if it could be used straight away as a research amenity for a manufacturer of anti-bacterial disinfectant, a bath and wash basin that aren't

one of those stodge avocado-colours that you'd make visitors think that they're ever alert to the possibility of camouflaged combat troops seeking to hide in your bathroom.

The Sessions way is to make prospective parents fall in love with the children long before they get the surveyor's report detailing all the structural problems. That was how Paulette and Phillip Hutton set their heart on seven-year-old Jeffrey long before they could be discouraged by the fact that he had lived in 11 foster homes and shelters since the age of four and suffered from severe behavioural problems. Head's documentary always stayed just the right side of slushy: when Chris, an adolescent who has lived in foster homes since his birth, finally finds a family to adopt him, we learn how happy he is because we quietly observe him

REVIEW



signing his new surname over and over again, trying it on like a new suit that seems to fit perfectly. Lacy — who was left without a family after her mother became a drug-addict and her father decided that he'd spent long enough with his daughter — also finds new parents through the picnic. Having a roof over her head is important, but clearly not as important as finally being loved by somebody. "They

picked me out of a whole bunch of other kids," she says, scarcely daring to believe it. "They picked me!" Children are not the only people who can use subtle, roundabout ways to say what they mean. Film-makers often do it, too. Take Anatomy of Desire (Channel 4), a four-part series which must be trying to tell us something very important about the mechanism of sexual desire by stringing together snippets about a man in Tokyo who charges his clients £300 to chat up members of the opposite sex on their behalf, and about outwitting women turned on by the smell of men's sweat, and about women watching dirty movies while attached to a vaginal probe, about America's oldest free love commune, and about Japanese women who have their hymens surgically reconstructed.

Last night's third episode was aiming to tell us why we fancy the people we do. This will come as a

shock to many of you, but apparently our sexual orientation is largely fixed at birth, although the way we behave with our parents and peers can also affect our sex drive and relationships. This explains why Violet — who liked playing at doctors as a child, and also enjoyed pinning boys to the ground — has grown up to become a "doctor" in a sado-masochism parlour and why the client we saw her "treating" last night happened to have had a mother who was a nurse and now works in medical supplies.

But if you found all that shocking, then I hope you switched off before Violet began performing her "sexualised operations" on her client. These included something called "testicle drainage" and another called "scrotal inflation", which was something else entirely. It involved Violet injecting two litres of water into

her patient's scrotum. You sometimes wonder who was the first person who persevered long enough with, say, arachnids to discover that they were actually worth eating, but you just can't imagine how anybody got on the idea of "scrotal inflation". Maybe it was something Sir Walter Raleigh brought back from America, along with potatoes, but he only lit his closest friends in on the secret.

More shocks, this time in East-Enders (BBC1), when Tiffany finds out yet more bad news about Grant. She hears it over a baby-alarm intercom: Grant has forgotten it has been switched on. The jolt is not that Albert Square's scriptwriters used this tired plot device to reveal to Tiffany what Grant had been getting up to with Tiffany's mum, but that the reception on this baby intercom was so crystal clear. Many plot twists in East-Enders stretch your credulity — but a decipherable baby intercom?

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (57159)
 - 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (44333)
 - 9.00 Kilroy (T) (5819420)
 - 9.40 Style Challenge (1575772)
 - 10.05 City Hospital (T) (7358449)
 - 10.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (4063420)
 - 11.00 Good Living with Jane Asher (400197)
 - 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (4003284)
 - 11.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1918333)
 - 12.00 Pass the Buck (967934)
 - 12.25pm Going for a Song (9686401)
 - 12.50 The Weather Show (T) (7345162)
 - 1.00 One O'Clock News; Weather (T) (47420)
 - 1.30 Regional News; Weather (45785197)
 - 1.40 Neighbours Hannah stands up for herself (T) (97764294)
 - 2.05 Invisable A businessman makes some shrewd calculations (T) (8359492)
 - 2.55 Wipeout (4058130)
 - 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (9547401)
 - 3.45 Bananas (9579413)
 - 3.50 ChuckleVision (9541826)
 - 4.10 Noah's Island (9592361)
 - 4.35 It's Never Work (9110061)
 - 5.00 Newsround (2754158)
 - 5.10 Aquila (8406975)
 - 5.35 Neighbours Hannah stands up for herself (T) (779642)
 - 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (8)
 - 6.30 Regional News Magazine (20)
 - 7.00 Holiday Craig Doyle sees off in Spain; Honor Blackman visits a luxurious holiday resort; a woman loses an all-inclusive break in Mexico and Florence's facilities for the disabled come under scrutiny (T) (6642)
 - 7.30 EastEnders Tragedy strikes at Albert Square (T) (84)
 - 8.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman The tale of a woman who was saved from the grave despite being pronounced dead by a doctor (T) (2525)
 - 8.30 Only Fools and Horses: Tammy's flares between the Trotter brothers as they fall for the same girl; Gerry Cowper guests as the object of David Jason and Nicholas Lyndhurst's desire (T) (1197)
 - 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8081)
 - 9.30 **CHOICE** QED The story of car crash victim Julie Hill, who agreed to undergo experimental surgery to become the world's first bionic woman. After being left paralysed below the waist, a new electronic implant has enabled her to stand again (T) (26046)
 - 10.00 Beverly Hills Cop II (1987)

Wesley-cracking Detroit lawman Axel Foley (Eddie Murphy) returns to Los Angeles to investigate a case of violent robberies. Comedy adventure sequel, with Judge Reinhold. Directed by Tony Scott (T) (935504)
 - 11.40 Without a Clue (1988) Brilliant detective Dr Watson conceals his abilities by inventing an imaginary character called Sherlock Holmes. Comedy, starring Michael Caine and Ben Kingsley. Directed by Thom Eberhardt (T) (295420)
 - 1.25am News (251444)
 - 1.30 BBC News (2110482)
- VIDEO Plus+ and VIDEO Plus+ codes**
The numbers after each programme are for VIDEO Plus+ programming. Just enter the VIDEO Plus+ number for the programme you wish to see on your video recorder for easy access.
For more details call VIDEO Plus+ on 0800 750710. Call charges 12p. Video Plus+ is a registered trademark of the Video Development Corporation © 1998

- BBC2**
- 7.00am CBBC Breakfast Show: The Little Polar Bear (9534449) 7.05 Teletubbies (9529791) 7.30 Tom and Jerry Kids (9550371) 7.55 Blue Bird (1572626) 8.20 Robinson Sucro (9796994) 8.40 Oakie Doke (9758130) 8.50 The Little Polar Bear (9787642) 9.00 Daytime On Two: The Geography Programme (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 10.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 11.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 12.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 1.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 2.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 3.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 4.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 5.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 6.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 7.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 8.50 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.00 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.10 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.20 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.30 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.40 Working It Out: Sordani (9581791) 9.50 Working It Out: Sord

AMERICAN FOOTBALL 46

Bills protest in vain at treatment in New England

SPORT

TUESDAY DECEMBER 1 1998

RUGBY UNION 47

England wait on Grayson's fitness for South Africa game

Chairman resigns in wake of dispute over £8 million Ferguson transfer

Everton split claims Johnson

By STEPHEN WOOD

PUBLIC displays of humility and regret clearly do not sit easily on the shoulders of Peter Johnson. Hours after he issued a statement on behalf of the Everton board of directors, accepting blame for the debacle over Duncan Ferguson's transfer, Johnson decided that it was not worth any more inconvenience. A second statement was made yesterday in which he resigned as chairman of the Goodison Park club.

Johnson, who assumed control when he became the major shareholder after a takeover battle in 1994, had been under constant pressure from supporters unhappy at the way that the club was being run. The secretive manner in which Ferguson was sold was a mistake from which Johnson's image could not recover.

After 11 years as a football chairman, four years with Everton and seven at Tranmere Rovers, Peter Johnson has decided to step down as chairman of Everton, the second of the day's statements read. "The role has been particularly difficult to carry out since he moved to Jersey and increased pressure has also brought health concerns."

Johnson, who made his personal fortune selling food hampers, saved the club from financial ruin when he bought a 68 per cent stake, at a cost of £11 million. He has since ploughed another £10 million of his own money into Goodison Park, but there has been suspicion of his motives.

At the end of last season, while Everton were escaping relegation to the Nationwide League first division on goal difference, a banner unfurled at Anfield read: "Agent Johnson: Mission Accomplished". It was a reference to the fact that Johnson, a former season ticket-holder at Anfield, was a Liverpool fan.

The blue half of Merseyside could not live with this. The club also endured little success on the field with Johnson in charge. Joe Royle, as manager, won the FA Cup in 1995, but that meant little when compared with the mid-1980s.

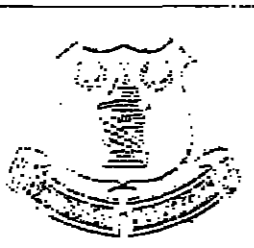
Kenwright, an Everton fan, is putting together a consortium to try to buy Johnson's shareholding, although he may not have the necessary financial backing to succeed, let alone cope with an overdraft that runs towards £15 million.

Johnson's stake is now worth around £50 million, entitling him to a £40 million profit whoever buys him out. Nevertheless, he is sure to sever his ties sooner rather than later, and those closest to Everton will welcome that as an important step on their way to regaining respect.

Johnson's resignation was announced yesterday, but many Everton supporters will not be unhappy at his eventual departure.

Johnson's resignation was announced yesterday, but many Everton supporters will not be unhappy at his eventual departure.

Johnson's resignation was announced yesterday, but many Everton supporters will not be unhappy at his eventual departure.



Johnson blamed health concerns for his decision to resign yesterday, but many Everton supporters will not be unhappy at his eventual departure



The sale of Ferguson, left, to Newcastle United a week ago prompted angry Everton supporters to call for Johnson's head and led Smith, right, who was not consulted over the deal, to consider his own future as manager at the club



Delay over 'bung' charges is criticised by Forest

By RICHARD HOBSON

PHIL SOAR, the Nottingham Forest chief executive, yesterday described as an "absolute disgrace" the delay by the Football Association in following up charges of misconduct relating to the Premier League "bung" inquiry, that were issued nearly 11 months ago.

Responding to requests for information from shareholders at the club's annual meeting, Soar said that he was still awaiting specific details on the charges despite seeking clarification in January, and was not even sure whether the matter would ever go to court. The club has allowed for the possibility of lengthy proceedings in its legal budget.

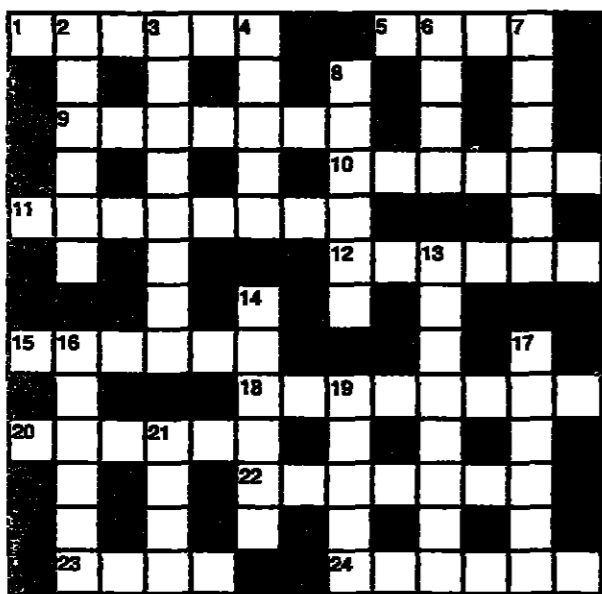
The allegations relate to "misconduct for failing properly to supervise their employees" in a number of transfer dealings that took place while the club was managed by Brian Clough in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Proceedings against Clough, who retired from football in 1993, have been abandoned because he is suffering from ill-health.

Any legal case mounted by Forest in defence will stress that the club was taken over in February last year and argue that the new board of directors should not be held responsible for the actions of former employees. Shareholders are concerned, however, that if Forest are found guilty, the penalty could be a heavy fine — for which Soar said the club had not budgeted — and/or automatic relegation.

Soar said: "The FA put the charges in January. Since then we have heard nothing. We keep pressing them through our lawyers, who speak to their lawyers at least once every month. We are always told that matters are proceeding and that they will be in touch as soon as possible. It is unfair to Nottingham Forest and the delay is an absolute disgrace. At the moment we do not know what is going to happen, if anything at all."

A spokesman for the FA said that the matter could be resolved early in the new year. "It is a complex case and we are at present awaiting legal advice on an important piece of evidence," the spokesman said. "We are as anxious as Nottingham Forest to see the case brought to a conclusion."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1577

- ACROSS: 1 Memorial, honorific garland (6); 3 Mop; gauze cleanser (4); 9 Well-liked; low-brow (7); 10 Really existing (6); 11 Dislike of women (8); 12 Sean — wrote Juno and the Paycock (6); 15 Jewish greeting (6); 19 Eternal boy (Barrie) (5,3); 20 Representative piece (6); 22 Vagrant; fishing boat (7); 23 A herb; venerable man (4); 24 Protect (6).
DOWN: 2 Gc fia (6); 3 Elysian Fields flower (8); 4 Tree; Buddy — rock'n-roll singer (5); 6 Sharpen (4); 7 Scold roughly (6); 8 Colour-stick for drawing (6); 13 Appetiser drink (8); 14 Baulk (6); 16 Gap; interruption (6); 17 One giving financial support (6); 19 Group of three (5); 21 Stopper; promote (eg book) (4).

SOLUTION TO NO 1576: ACROSS: 1 Scholastic 8 Pursuer 9 Ounce 10 Coop 11 Dividing 13 Pummel 15 Latent 17 Carnival 18 File 21 Eagle 22 Troulis 23 Trying it on. DOWN: 2 Cargo 3 Onus 4 Adroit 5 Tropical 6 Centime 7 Weightless 8 Pickpocket 12 Delivery 14 Mr Right 16 Carton 19 Igloo 20 Yogi

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP. NEW TIMES CROSSWORD TITLES NOW AVAILABLE. The Times Two Crosswords (Book 20) (92p). The Times Jumble Crosswords Book 12 (available to Times readers for just 4.99p). The Times Bookshop. To order simply call 0141 204 1214 for credit card orders or for further details. If paying by cheque, please make payable to New Books Services Ltd, c/o The Times Bookshop, PO Box 16, Falmouth, TR11 2YX. Delivery in 14 days and subject to availability.

Batsmen bear brunt of blame for England's Ashes debacle

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN PERTH

AS THE inquiries began and potential excuses were presented for consideration, Alec Stewart rejected them all in turn. The second Ashes Test had been lost halfway through its scheduled course, but the England captain refused to shift responsibility on to the contentious areas of pitch, toss or flawed catching. He laid the blame where he knew it belonged. A cyclonic game was effectively decided by mid-afternoon on its opening day and Stewart did not pretend otherwise. For a man reared on plaudits, he issued his judgment on England's first innings batting with unusual venom. "It was," he said, "I'll keep plugging away and it hasn't entered my head to go further down the order."

Defeat, especially so rapid a defeat, raised ugly spectres of the past five Ashes series. One down with three to play is not an unplayable lie but, against the best team in the world, it is a huge deterrent. As England reacted to the early finish by giving their players two free days to refresh and recharge, Mark Taylor, the Australia captain, was not slow to state the obvious. "Yes, we've got the psychological advantage," he said. "It's been built up over ten years."

Taylor, however, refused to echo the crowing of so many Australian commentators. "We take nothing for granted. Last year, in England, you might have said we were in a tight position, one down after two games, but we won the next three. Player for player we are the better side but that is not necessarily how games and series are decided."

Quite how different a contest this might have been, with even a degree of early defiance, became evident on the third day. Through the efforts of Graeme Hick and Mark Ramprakash, England contrived to set a nominal target of 64. That Australia then lost three wickets for 36 indicated the perils that could have confronted them with even 150 to make.

The bottom line, however, is that England have fallen behind at the start of a series for the third time this year. Stewart spoke rousing of the summer comeback against South Africa, but the words of Taylor were more pertinent. "I thought Brisbane and Perth would be the Tests that would suit their bowlers, so I am pretty happy with our position," he said. "England let themselves down here by dropping their catches."

A game completed so prematurely, with only two half-centuries and an average of just 18 runs per wicket, would customarily bring condemnation of conditions. Not here. Stewart described it as "a good wicket" and Taylor identified the telling factor when he said: "Neither side batted all that well."



Lloyd and Gooch watch England slide towards defeat

MORSE. We don't interview new recruits. We just look at their CVs. Unlikely. When companies make investment decisions, they want to know what they are getting for their money. Morse has Enterprise Computing Centres for just this reason. Clients can put large, complex systems through their paces before they buy them. They often camp out in our centres for weeks before they are satisfied. Our competitors have really nice brochures. Sun. Morse Computers. No.1 for Sun. 0800 22 88 88. www.morse.com

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, partially cut off, including 'You to edu lis', 'Here are the...', 'must read, John', 'and figures that', 'secondary sel...', 'The results of...', 'Teachers' organ...', 'remains reman...', 'ceptual about the', 'value of league ta...', 'les, but they are', 'and avidly by per...', 'and others with', 'with an interest in', 'schools. This year', 'publication come', 'less than usual be', 'cause of the timin...', 'of the Queens', 'speech, and the', 'was a streamlin...', 'from readers.', 'David Blankett, the', 'son and Employment', 'ary, has resigned', 'step publishing to', 'ally. He has prom...', 'to make the table', 'lized, introducing', 'adder' measure', 'opportunities.', 'The change was', 'gan this year, with', 'duction of a Privat...', 'comparing the CAS', 'of schools, with simi...

EXTRA
16
PAGES

Schools report

THE TIMES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 1 1998

THE COMPLETE LEAGUE TABLES OF GCSE AND A-LEVEL RESULTS FOR ENGLAND

Your guide to the education listings

Here are the tables that every pupil's parents must read. John O'Leary introduces the facts and figures that chart the performance of 4,000 secondary schools and colleges in England

This year's examination league tables reflect the national improvement in GCSE and A-level results, but leave most schools well short of the targets demanded by the Government. The aim is for half of all pupils to pass five high-grade GCSEs by 2001, compared with the current level of 46.3 per cent.

The results have become a crucial yardstick of progress for ministers, as well as an invaluable tool for parents choosing a secondary school for their children. Eventually, the tables will include measures of the "value added" by schools, taking account of their pupils' ability at entry, but they already provide a pointer for further investigation.

Nationally, GCSE and A-level results have improved since 1997, with some local authorities showing strong progress. The addition of new unitary authorities has made comparisons impossible in some areas, but authorities such as Hertfordshire and Ealing, in West London, have seen a leap in performance.

The results of a minority of schools, however, continue to give cause for concern. Ministers will also be disappointed, in the midst of their drive to reduce truancy, to see another rise in the national rate of unauthorised absence.

Teachers' organisations remain sceptical about the value of league tables, but they are read avidly by parents and others with an interest in schools. This year's publication comes later than usual because of the timing of the Queen's Speech, and the delay has prompted a stream of inquiries from readers.

David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, has resisted pressure to stop publishing results nationally. He has promised instead to make the tables more sophisticated, introducing "value-added" measures at the first opportunity.

The change was to have begun this year, with the introduction of a Progress Index comparing the GCSE results of schools with similar national curriculum test scores from two years earlier. However, Mr Blunkett abandoned the exercise less than a fortnight ago, accepting head teachers' complaints that good schools would be labelled unfairly. The search for a better measure is continuing but may have to wait until after the millennium.

The full tables, which are available from local libraries and the Department for Education and Employment, include an indicator showing pupils at about a quarter of the 4,000 schools making good progress between the age of 14 and 16. Since the measure has been acknowledged to be unreliable, however, the indicator does not appear in this supplement.

One new measure has been included. This shows the average GCSE points achieved by pupils in each school, rather than simply the proportion

managing five high-grade passes or one pass of any sort. An A* grade is worth eight points, A seven, down to one point for a grade G.

The points score is too new to be the main indicator by which schools are ranked in 1998: parents are used to the currency of five A*-C passes and the tables do not include previous years' points to iron out the freak results which occur even in larger secondary schools. It may well become the key measure of schools in future years, however, because it gives a much more rounded picture of their results.

The use of five A*-C passes as the dominant measure of schools encourages teachers to concentrate on those on the margins of a grade C. One warning is a likely grade B to an A* counts for nothing and those of low ability can be ignored if they have no prospect of five good passes.

However, because the new indicator measures the points scored by each candidate, rather than taking an average per subject, it may have another unintended consequence. Schools may be tempted to enter teenagers for more GCSEs than they need in order to boost the school's total. Since their first appearance in 1992, the tables have acquired growing importance. In the independent sector, a drop in the league tables can put pressure on the position of the head teacher, while measures to be outlined in this week's Green Paper would mean that state school teachers' salary levels depended partly on their pupils' results.

The tables in this supplement differ from those compiled by *The Times* and other newspapers in the summer, both in scale and methodology. Today's cover every secondary school in England, apart from those designated as serving children with special educational needs.

Some special schools achieve outstanding results, but it would be unfair to compare most of them with mainstream schools. Parents are using entirely different criteria when choosing between them. The tables are arranged in local authority areas, but include independent and grant-maintained schools. The national rankings of top and bottom schools exclude those with fewer than 30 candidates in the relevant measure.

This supplement covers English schools only. Despite the high level of co-ordination of government announcements in most areas, the departments responsible for education in England, Scotland and Wales continue to bring out results in different weeks. Scottish results appeared last week, while those for Wales who are contemplating a cross-border move would welcome a single publication.

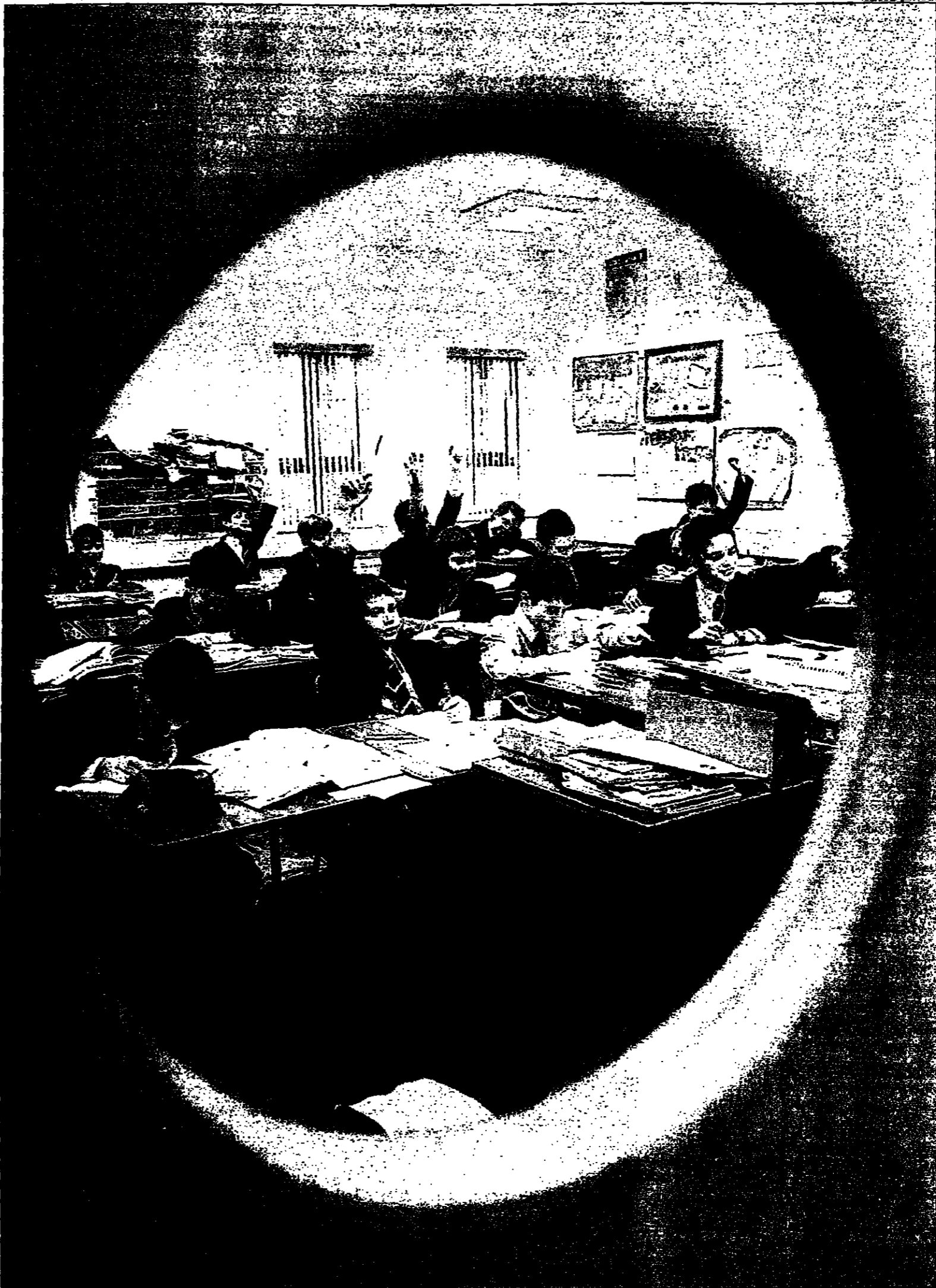
Unlike the summer tables of the top schools, the Govern-

ment's main GCSE figures are restricted to those who were 15 at the start of the school year. Independent schools have long complained that this devalues their achievements because they are more flexible than the state system when it comes to the age at which pupils sit public examinations.

Today's A-level results also differ from the summer tables, which exclude general studies because most universities do not give the subject full credit for selection purposes. The change makes a big difference in the placings: King Edward's School, Birmingham, which has the best A-level score in this supplement, was only 15th in our August table.

With the addition of new measures almost every year, the full tables have grown to such a size that most newspapers are restricted to a selection of the main indicators. Only *The Times Educational Supplement*, in its Friday edition, will publish a full national listing. This includes information such as the number of pupils with special educational needs and the full range of vocational qualifications.

Full tables can be ordered on the Department for Education and Employment hotline: Freephone 0800 242322. The results in this supplement will remain available in *The Times Internet edition* (for free) at <http://www.the-times.co.uk>. The full listing is also available through the DfEE's website at <http://www.dfes.gov.uk>.



Class act: an English lesson at Old Swinford Hospital in Stourbridge, West Midlands, England's top comprehensive school in GCSE exams

MOST IMPROVED SCHOOLS

The first figure is the percentage of pupils passing five or more A* to C GCSEs; the second figure is the percentage increase over three years.

King Fahad Academy, Ealing	90/44	St Mary's RC High School, Herefordshire	63/19
Yesday Hatorah School, Hackney	93/41	Our Lady's Convent High School, Hackney	68/19
Jeff Joseph Sale Moor Technology College, Trafford	35/28	Progrmore Community College, Hampshire	70/19
Bacon's College, Southwark	46/28	Great Wyrley High School, Staffordshire	48/18
The Leigh Technology College, Kent	47/27	Hamstead High School, Birmingham	45/18
Djanoghy City Technology College, Nottingham City	49/27	Longford Community School, Hounslow	34/18
The Middlefield School, Lincolnshire	29/27	Fearnhill School, Hertfordshire	60/18
The London Oratory School, Ham Smith and Fulham	88/26	St Ursula's Convent School, Greenwich	71/18
Northfleet School for Girls, Kent	31/26	Bethnal Green Technology College, Tower Hamlets	39/18
The Community College, Bishop's Clee, Shropshire	66/26	John Ford School, Derbyshire	67/17
King David High School, Manchester	83/26	Northampton (GM) School for Boys, Northants	63/17
Wigmore High School, Herefordshire	64/25	Imberhorne School, West Sussex	67/17
Bowland County High School, Lancashire	58/25	Pilton Community College, Devon	54/17
Bassingthorpe GM Village College, Cambridgeshire	71/25	Walthamstow School for Girls, Waltham Forest	57/17
Ibstock Place, Wandsworth	100/25	St Joseph RC Comprehensive School, South Tyneside	56/17
Central Technology College, Gloucestershire	34/24	Matthew Moss High School, Rochdale	42/17
Castle Community School, Kent	31/24	Great Baddow High School, Essex	55/17
Gordon's School, Surrey	73/24	Whalley Range 11-18 High School, Manchester	32/17
King's School, Hampshire	71/23	Alder Grange High School, Lancashire	39/17
Wilton Park High School, Blackburn with Darwen	40/23	Holy Trinity RC School, Birmingham	31/17
Fulford School, York City	70/23	Slough Grammar School, Slough	59/16
The Nobel School, Hertfordshire	57/23	William Lovell C of E School, Lincolnshire	60/16
Cardinal Wiseman RC School, Birmingham	36/23	Wootton Upper School, Bedfordshire	59/16
Longsands College, Cambridgeshire	66/22	Wildern School, Hampshire	60/16
Longhill High School, Brighton and Hove	50/22	Aldridge School, Walsall	57/16
Brine Leas County High School, Cheshire	75/22	Highfields School, Wolverhampton	53/16
St Bonaventura's RC School, Newham	61/22	Arthur Terry School, Birmingham	54/16
Neatherd High School, Norfolk	69/22	Oakmeads Community School, West Sussex	62/16
The Grey Coat Hospital, Westminster	69/22	Bishopshalt School Hillingdon	52/16
Parrs Wood High School, Manchester	53/20	The Robert Manning School, Lincolnshire	43/16
Prince Henry's GM High School, Worcestershire	68/20	Bower Park School, Havering	36/16
Rossett High School, North Yorkshire	52/20	Leiston High School, Suffolk	47/16
Northolt High (GM) School, Ealing	41/20	La Retraite RC Girls' (GM) High School, Lambeth	48/16
Broughton Hall High School, Liverpool	56/20	St Michael's RC School, Southwark	41/16
Enfield County School, Enfield	66/20	Sacred Heart RC School, Southwark	32/16
Rickmansworth School, Hertfordshire	76/20	Our Lady's Convent School, Leicestershire	44/16
Great Marlow School, Buckinghamshire	44/20	JPS (Jews Free School), Camden	97/16
Maidenhill School, Gloucestershire	33/20	Forest School, Wokingham	73/15
Sion-Manning School, Kensington and Chelsea	50/20	Thamesview School, Kent	68/15
Reading Girls' School, Reading	39/20	The Misbourne School, Buckinghamshire	26/15
King Edward VII High School, Norfolk	63/19	St Chad's RC Comprehensive School, Halton	55/15
Walkden High School, Salford	61/19	Sidmouth College, Devon	68/15
Isleworth and Syon Boys' School, Hounslow	54/19	Linham High School, Norfolk	56/15
Uplands Community College, East Sussex	64/19	Kings Heath School, Birmingham	26/15
Heywood Community School, Gloucestershire	39/19	Hollygirt School, Nottingham City	92/15

Deprived areas benefit from special treatment

SPECIALISED colleges set up to serve some of the most deprived urban areas in the country have once again proved their ability to raise standards by dominating this year's Most Improved list.

Three of the top 20 most improved schools are City Technology Colleges, which have achieved up to a 28 per cent point increase in results since 1995.

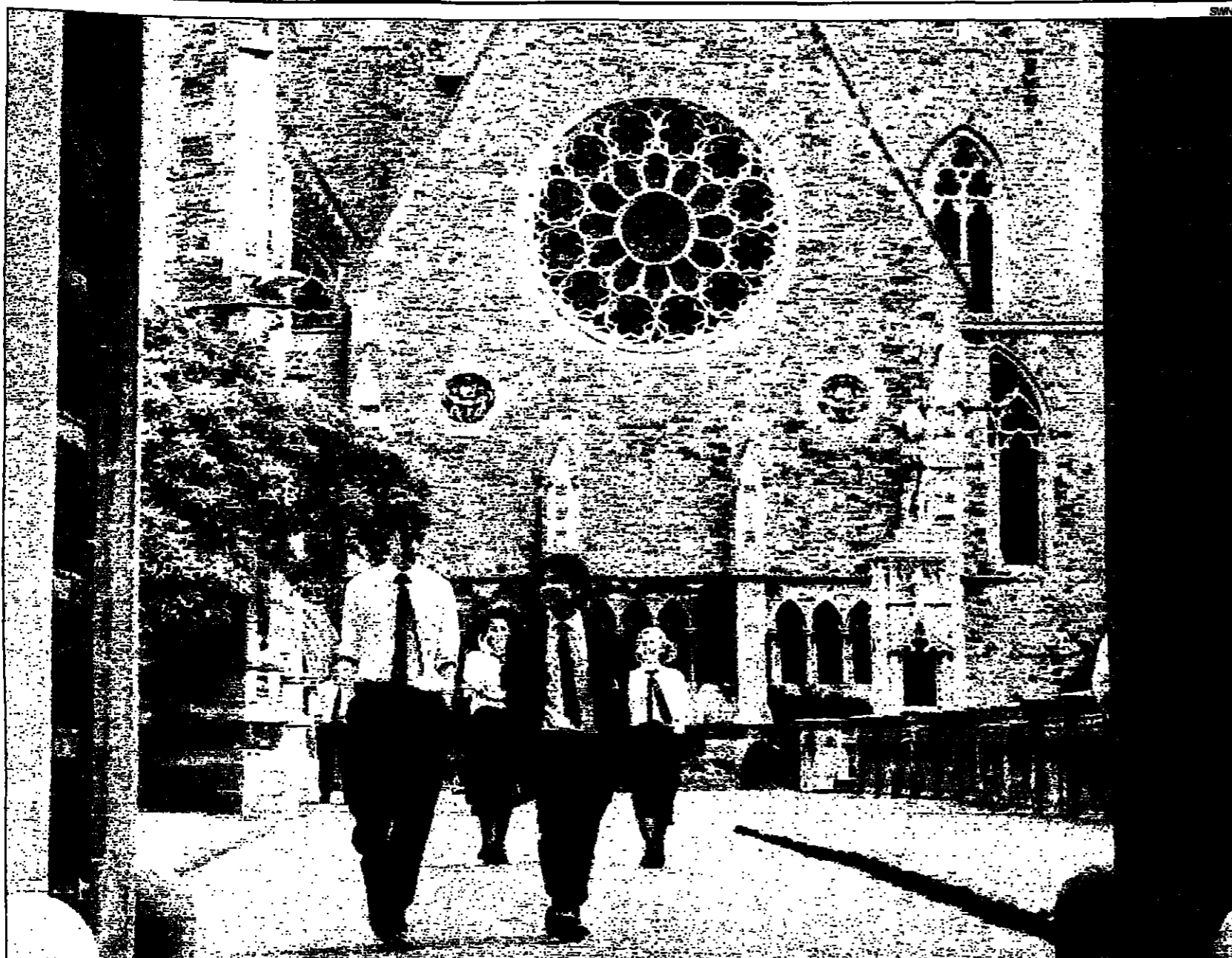
Paul Burtenshaw, headmaster of the boys' upper school, said the sharp rise in GCSE results reflected changes made five years ago when the national curriculum was introduced. Before that, the school had lost a number of promising pupils each year to conventional independent schools.

Pupils at the separate boys' and girls' schools spend about a quarter of their time on Islamic studies and learning Arabic. "There has been tremendous improvement in recent years," Mr Burtenshaw said. One of the most famous schools to appear on the list is the London Oratory School, where the Prime Minister's children go.

Ranking joint eighth position in the table, the school has raised its A*-C grades from 66 per cent in 1995, to 88 per cent this year.

Topping the list of the most

VICTORIA FLETCHER



Spirited performers: a cathedral provides the backdrop as students stroll to class at Clifton College, a respectable eighth in the City of Bristol division

School	6th form					GCSE					
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	
Dorothy Strangier HS CCM 11-16	92	16.0	2	232	41.4	96	(51)	(47)	55		
Cardinal Newman Sch VA CM 11-16	48	14.4	0	264	39.3	98	(44)	(52)	58		
Blighdon Hill Sch and Centre CCM 11-16	46	14.4	0	203	37.5	97	(39)	(41)	58		
Langford HS CCM 11-16	77	13.8	0	221	34.7	95	(40)	(39)	48		
Hove Park Sch CCM 11-16	26	12.8	0	126	29.5	95	(29)	(35)	38		
Portsmouth Coll CCM 11-16	12	12.8	0	128	30.2	88	(33)	(23)	34		
Patcham HS CCM 11-16	11	12.7	0	126	29.0	83	(30)	(27)	17		
Palmer Sch CCM 11-16	15	12.6	0	142	21.2	87	(11)	(13)	13		
Mariner HS CCM 11-16	56	15.3	0	21	5.4	76	(0)	(0)	0		
Belvedere Coll ISM 12-19	167	1.2	0	347	52.1	(-)	(140)	(1)	42.2		
LEA averages											

CITY OF BRISTOL

Colston Girls Sch ISG 9-19	55	19.2	0.0	58	54.8	100	(97)	(100)	100	
Cifford HS ISG 2-19	50	17.8	0	55	64.3	100	(99)	(100)	100	
Dorset Elizabeth Hospital ISB 10-19	68	18.3	0.1	74	59.0	100	(99)	(96)	100	
Bristol Gram Sch ISM 7-19	135	22.4	0	150	65.6	100	(99)	(99)	100	
Redland HS ISG 2-19	63	23.7	0.0	62	59.1	97	(100)	(93)	97	
Redland Sch ISG 4-19	40	24.7	0.0	44	63.7	100	(94)	(88)	95	
Red Hill Sch ISG 7-19	71	24.7	0	77	62.8	99	(93)	(94)	94	
Clifton Coll ISM 3-19	131	22.5	0.0	129	59.0	100	(89)	(85)	91	
Clifton Sch ISM 3-19	62	17.7	0	66	47.7	94	(74)	(62)	80	
Clifton's Collegiate Sch ISM 3-19	44	18.7	0.0	74	49.6	89	(84)	(83)	72	
Bristol Cathedral Sch ISB 10-19	44	18.7	0.0	74	49.6	89	(84)	(83)	72	
St Ursula's HS ISM 3-16	64	16.6	0.3	182	46.5	98	(53)	(69)	82	
St Mary Redcliffe and Temple Sch VA CM 11-16	98	16.3	0.4	152	42.7	98	(54)	(60)	82	
Colston Gram Sch CCM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
St Bede's Roman Catholic Sch VA CM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
Mander Park Roman Catholic Sch ISM 15-19	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Widford Park Roman Catholic Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
St Thomas More Sch ISM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Bernardine Camp Sch SA CM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
Parferry Sch CCM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-16	19	11.7	0.1	117	27.1	93	(32)	(29)	28	
Bridlington Sch CCM 11-16	58	10.8	2.6	288	29.2	93	(32)	(33)	28	
Fairfield Sch CCM 11-16	6	8.2	2.0	76	29.7	95	(27)	(29)	25	
Redcliffe Down Sch CCM 11-16	14	13.2	0	178	29.2	92	(34)	(31)	28	
Hardcliffe Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Lucknash Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Henegrove Sch CCM 11-16	2	11.9	0.4	127	26.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
St George's Sch CCM 11-16	11	9.1	0.4	119	27.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
Spearsfield Sch CCM 11-16	11	10.3	2.1	178	22.6	85	(22)	(20)	17	
Lawrence Weston Sch CCM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Widford Park Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Ursula's Sch CCM 11-16	64	16.6	0.3	182	46.5	98	(53)	(69)	82	
St Mary Redcliffe and Temple Sch VA CM 11-16	98	16.3	0.4	152	42.7	98	(54)	(60)	82	
Colston Gram Sch CCM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
St Bede's Roman Catholic Sch VA CM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
Mander Park Roman Catholic Sch ISM 15-19	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Widford Park Roman Catholic Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
St Thomas More Sch ISM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Bernardine Camp Sch SA CM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
Parferry Sch CCM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-16	19	11.7	0.1	117	27.1	93	(32)	(29)	28	
Bridlington Sch CCM 11-16	58	10.8	2.6	288	29.2	93	(32)	(33)	28	
Fairfield Sch CCM 11-16	6	8.2	2.0	76	29.7	95	(27)	(29)	25	
Redcliffe Down Sch CCM 11-16	14	13.2	0	178	29.2	92	(34)	(31)	28	
Hardcliffe Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Lucknash Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Henegrove Sch CCM 11-16	2	11.9	0.4	127	26.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
St George's Sch CCM 11-16	11	9.1	0.4	119	27.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
Spearsfield Sch CCM 11-16	11	10.3	2.1	178	22.6	85	(22)	(20)	17	
Lawrence Weston Sch CCM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Widford Park Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Ursula's Sch CCM 11-16	64	16.6	0.3	182	46.5	98	(53)	(69)	82	
St Mary Redcliffe and Temple Sch VA CM 11-16	98	16.3	0.4	152	42.7	98	(54)	(60)	82	
Colston Gram Sch CCM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
St Bede's Roman Catholic Sch VA CM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
Mander Park Roman Catholic Sch ISM 15-19	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Widford Park Roman Catholic Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
St Thomas More Sch ISM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Bernardine Camp Sch SA CM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
Parferry Sch CCM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-16	19	11.7	0.1	117	27.1	93	(32)	(29)	28	
Bridlington Sch CCM 11-16	58	10.8	2.6	288	29.2	93	(32)	(33)	28	
Fairfield Sch CCM 11-16	6	8.2	2.0	76	29.7	95	(27)	(29)	25	
Redcliffe Down Sch CCM 11-16	14	13.2	0	178	29.2	92	(34)	(31)	28	
Hardcliffe Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Lucknash Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Henegrove Sch CCM 11-16	2	11.9	0.4	127	26.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
St George's Sch CCM 11-16	11	9.1	0.4	119	27.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
Spearsfield Sch CCM 11-16	11	10.3	2.1	178	22.6	85	(22)	(20)	17	
Lawrence Weston Sch CCM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Widford Park Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Ursula's Sch CCM 11-16	64	16.6	0.3	182	46.5	98	(53)	(69)	82	
St Mary Redcliffe and Temple Sch VA CM 11-16	98	16.3	0.4	152	42.7	98	(54)	(60)	82	
Colston Gram Sch CCM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
St Bede's Roman Catholic Sch VA CM 11-16	31	15.3	0.0	139	40.4	98	(44)	(55)	83	
Mander Park Roman Catholic Sch ISM 15-19	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Widford Park Roman Catholic Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
St Thomas More Sch ISM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Bernardine Camp Sch SA CM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
Parferry Sch CCM 11-16	18	14.8	0	142	33.3	95	(38)	(34)	32	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-16	19	11.7	0.1	117	27.1	93	(32)	(29)	28	
Bridlington Sch CCM 11-16	58	10.8	2.6	288	29.2	93	(32)	(33)	28	
Fairfield Sch CCM 11-16	6	8.2	2.0	76	29.7	95	(27)	(29)	25	
Redcliffe Down Sch CCM 11-16	14	13.2	0	178	29.2	92	(34)	(31)	28	
Hardcliffe Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Lucknash Sch CCM 11-16	7	10.4	2.0	154	29.0	91	(29)	(22)	25	
Henegrove Sch CCM 11-16	2	11.9	0.4	127	26.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
St George's Sch CCM 11-16	11	9.1	0.4	119	27.1	89	(33)	(29)	28	
Spearsfield Sch CCM 11-16	11	10.3	2.1	178	22.6	85	(22)	(20)	17	
Lawrence Weston Sch CCM 11-16	12	12.4	0.2	86	28.6	90	(36)	(40)	37	
Widford Park Sch CCM 11-16	16	8.6	1.9	98	31.7	91	(34)	(30)	39	
Meade Park Sch CCM 11-16	39	12.1	2.3	183	32.1	91	(35)	(38)	34	
St Ursula's Sch CCM 11-16	64	16.6	0.3	182	46.5	98	(53)	(69)	82	

MARCHEL STEPHENS

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Dinky HS I S M 2-19, London Forts Coll CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Goldbrook Sch I S M 3-19, Trent Coll I S M 10-19, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 12-19, St Marys Sch I S M 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 10-19, St Marys Sch I S M 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 9-19, St Marys Sch I S M 10-19, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 8-19, St Marys Sch I S M 9-19, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 7-19, St Marys Sch I S M 8-19, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like St Marys Sch I S M 6-19, St Marys Sch I S M 7-19, etc.



High fivers Colchester County High's top A-level scorers. left to right, Lindsay Wilson (5), Cathy Hardwick (5), Lisa Hall (6), Liz Venn (5) and Rowan Boyson (5)

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Brunel Sch CCM 11-16, Houghton Camp Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Stanley Sch CCM 11-16, Watlington Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

Handwritten text in a box, possibly a name or signature.

EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like East Riding Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

EAST SUSSEX

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like East Sussex Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

ESSEX

Table with 5 columns: School Name, 5th form, GCSE, and other metrics. Includes schools like Essex Sch CCM 11-16, etc.

8 SCHOOL LEAGUE TABLES



A picture that speaks volumes: fifth form students prepare for their exams in the library at Kingston Grammar School, south west London

School	6th form					GCSE					
	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	
Ashted Sch CCM 11-16	1.9	171	29.5	93	(32)	(31)	31				
Our Lady Queen of Peace RC HS VA C M 11-16	0.0	10	21.7	60	(69)	(52)	30				
Prenton Middle School HS CCM 11-16	0.0	17	27.8	94	(23)	(28)	28				
Oxendon Cross Hall HS CCM 11-16	38	13.4	0.9	139	34.8	99	(37)	(28)	27		
Ryeford HS CCM 11-16	0.0	2.2	191	30.0	96	(25)	(28)				
Accrington Moorhead HS CCM 11-16	0.0	3.3	211	27.8	98	(28)	(25)				
Gleadowe HS CCM 11-16	0.0	2.2	96	26.7	82	(24)	(14)				
Christ King RC HS VA C M 11-16	0.0	2.0	192	25.9	91	(22)	(25)				
Horsley Co HS CCM 11-16	0.0	1.4	26	27.3	100	(15)	(27)				
Townley HS CCM 11-16	0.0	3.0	121	24.8	89	(32)	(21)				
Peasemore HS CCM 11-16	0.0	2.2	158	24.7	92	(20)	(29)				
Moar Park HS CCM 11-16	0.0	0.5	78	27.0	96	(21)	(20)				
Fleetham Co HS CCM 11-16	32	11.5	1.8	192	23.9	91	(22)	(25)			
Lidham HS CCM 11-16	0.0	1.9	137	27.9	100	(22)	(19)				
Stanton HS CCM 11-16	0.0	2.8	94	22.0	89	(16)	(14)				
Ribblesdale Hall HS CCM 11-16	0.0	7	121	20.7	79	(15)	(16)				
Crookley Hall Sch ISB 11-16	0.0	9.4	15	3.9	67	(0)	(0)				
Waterloo Lodge Sch ISB 11-16	0.0	2.9	9	0.9	44	(0)	(0)				
Progress Sch ISB 9-19	0.0	6	5	0.2	60	(0)	(0)				
Jamaica Al Kadhim Residential Islamic Institute I N G 11-19	0.0	1.7	18	0.3	60	(0)	(0)				
Belmont Sch ISB 11-16	0.0	1.4	5	0.2	60	(0)	(0)				
LEA averages	19.8	0.9	37.6	94.9	(1)	(1)	47.8				

CITY OF LEICESTER

School	6th form					GCSE					
	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	
Leicester HS for Girls ISG 2-19	34	27.2	0.0	40	62.1	100	(100)	100			
Irethall Hall ISB 14-19	7	21.9	0.0	2	48.5	100	(7)	(38)			
Leicester Grammar Sch ISM 9-19	64	29.1	0.0	87	66.7	100	(97)	(100)			
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 2-19	0.0	0.0	0.0	20	49.0	100	(14)	(80)			
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	43	19.4	1.0	166	41.2	96	(54)	(56)			
St Paul's RC Comp Sch VA C M 11-18	43	18.7	0.5	166	39.7	98	(42)	(47)			
Tusley Mead Secondary Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	2.2	244	35.5	98	(35)	(47)				
Seam Valley Coll CCM 11-16	0.0	0.6	242	36.3	95	(50)	(49)				
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	75	14.0	2.1	201	32.1	94	(49)	(55)			
Leicester Boys Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	1.2	133	34.9	96	(42)	(37)				
Judgesmead Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	1.0	234	35.3	98	(42)	(42)				
Beaumont Lays Sch CCM 11-16	20	14.4	1.6	192	31.9	95	(39)	(29)			
Crown Hills Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	2.0	234	32.4	96	(38)	(39)				
Rowley Fields Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	1.6	101	27.7	100	(23)	(29)				
Habitant Comm Sch CCM 11-16	7	7.4	3.0	133	27.2	92	(14)	(19)			
Mundella Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	0.0	102	22.3	95	(13)	(23)				
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	0.0	3.3	196	24.6	100	(28)	(42)				
John Ellis Comm Sch CCM 11-16	27	2.7	3.3	165	22.5	97	(42)	(21)			
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	0.0	3.8	103	24.8	89	(10)	(17)				
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	0.0	1.7	155	21.2	92	(19)	(19)				
New Parks Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	5.6	133	18.9	97	(15)	(16)				
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	0.0	3.0	93	22.4	77	(11)	(14)				
Mary Leonard Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	7	25	14.4	34	(6)	(11)				
Wyllies Comm Sch CCM 11-16	0.0	0.0	11	5.5	36	(0)	(3)				
Daral Unwin Leicester I N M 11-18	0.0	2.7	2	0.2	70	(0)	(0)				
St Cecilia's Sch I N M 2-16	0.0	1.5	1.9	30.0	91.1	(1)	(32.8)				
LEA averages	14.5	1.9	30.0	91.1	(1)	(32.8)	34.8				

LEICESTERSHIRE

School	6th form					GCSE					
	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	
Loughborough HS ISG 11-18	62	34.2	0.5	32	62.5	100	(100)	(100)			
Dunleavy Sch ISM 11-18	17	22.5	0.9	22	35.5	100	(91)	(100)			
Townley Home Sch ISM 9-19	29	23.8	0.0	29	37.2	97	(95)	(100)			
Our Lady Queen of Peace RC HS ISB 11-18	25	21.2	0.0	29	32.4	96	(94)	(98)			
Loughborough Grammar Sch ISM 10-19	136	30.2	3	142	58.5	97	(94)	(93)			
Ratcliffe Coll ISM 10-19	10	15.7	0.0	32	45.1	95	(86)	(78)			
Beauchamp Coll CCM 14-18	274	27.1	3.2	256	47.2	97	(95)	(95)			
Church Farm Comm Sch I N M 2-17	0.0	0.0	0.0	44	48.8	100	(100)	(100)			
De Lisle HS Sch ISM 11-18	45	23.1	0.3	191	43.9	92	(57)	(55)			
Loughborough Grammar Sch and Comm Sch CCM 14-18	245	16.6	1.5	191	41.0	99	(58)	(56)			
King Edward VII Upper Sch CCM 14-18	152	16.7	0.0	167	41.6	95	(53)	(56)			
Carver's Green Sch ISM 11-18	122	15.6	1.4	142	39.6	97	(45)	(51)			
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	111	13.9	2.1	141	34.1	90	(44)	(41)			
Wreake Valley Comm Sch CCM 14-18	63	14.6	0.3	292	28.6	97	(47)	(39)			
Longsight Comm Sch CCM 14-18	75	17.4	0.0	222	26.5	95	(47)	(43)			
Hind Lays Comm Sch CCM 14-18	79	19.4	1.9	222	26.4	93	(43)	(47)			
Grange Comm Sch CCM 14-18	168	14.2	1.4	232	24.7	93	(42)	(42)			
Bartholomew Comm Sch CCM 14-18	152	15.2	4.2	212	21.5	91	(37)	(33)			
Ashby Green Sch CCM 14-18	179	13.0	1.4	293	24.0	96	(42)	(45)			
Deirdre Bosworth Coll CCM 14-18	129	17.0	0.9	278	21.1	94	(47)	(46)			
John Cleveland Coll CCM 14-18	172	20.1	1.7	256	24.9	96	(39)	(38)			
Conventham Comm Sch CCM 14-18	70	22.9	1.0	242	26.1	93	(36)	(35)			
William Bradford Comm Sch CCM 14-18	26	16.0	1.2	222	26.5	91	(29)	(25)			
Calverton Coll CCM 14-18	193	18.2	2.2	426	33.0	95	(42)	(42)			
Leicester Islamic Acad I N M 11-18	1	20.2	0.0	14	33.1	100	(62)	(91)			
King Edward VII Comm Sch CCM 14-18	67	19.9	5.4	311	30.0	92	(32)	(32)			
Brookside House Coll CCM 14-18	10	13.2	0.0	10	15.0	100	(20)	(20)			
LEA averages	157	2.1	36.4	34.3	11	(44.7)	45.8				

LINCOLNSHIRE

School	6th form					GCSE					
	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	
Catton Gram Sch GMS 11-18	56	26.6	3	85	63.7	100	(99)	(97)			
Owen Elizabeth's HS CCM 11-18	114	26.5	6	139	51.2	99	(92)	(95)			
Queen Elizabeth's Gram Sch - Hemphelton GMS 11-18	81	23.2	6.1	119	55.5	100	(99)	(96)			
St Gregory's Gram Sch CCM 11-18	79	22.7	9.1	75	59.3	97	(92)	(96)			
St James' Gram Sch ISM 11-18	26	16.0	1.2	222	26.5	91	(29)	(25)			
Spalding Gram Sch ISM 11-18	39	20.2	6	56	56.1	92	(85)	(85)			
Owen Elizabeth's HS Gram Sch CCM 11-18	32	16.2	5	58	52.2	100	(88)	(84)			
Keaston and Grantham Girls Sch CCM 11-18	123	23.0	0.1	142	38.2	98	(96)	(95)			
King's Sch ISM 11-18	112	21.3	0.1	130	54.4	99	(94)	(95)			
Keaston and Grantham HS CCM 11-18	112	21.5	6	98	57.5	99	(95)	(95)			
Spalding HS ISM 11-18	58	16.0	1.2	222	26.5	91	(29)	(25)			
Sharncliffe HS ISM 11-18	99	20.1	3	99	58.5	97	(96)	(96)			
Keaston and Grantham Sch ISM 11-18	65	20.0	0.1	22	54.5	99	(91)	(94)			
King Edward VII Gram Sch CCM 11-18	126	17.5	6	134	52.0	99	(93)	(93)			
Standon Sch ISM 11-18	112	11.2	6	104	23.9	97	(82)	(72)			
Standon HS for Girls CCM 11-18	116	15.2	0.1	195	24.9	99	(82)	(91)			
Lincoln Diocesan Sch ISM 2-19	23	1.7	0.0	35	45.8	97	(91)	(91)			

School	6th form					GCSE					
	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	Maths	English	Science	History	Geography	
Kingston House Sch I N M 2-17	6	15	30.6	100	(89)	(59)	75				
William Farr Coll Comp Sch GMS 11-18	68	21.4	0.4	194	45.5	97	(52)	(61)			
Lincoln Sch of Science and Tech Coll VA C M 11-18	0.0	0.1	189	44.4	97	(64)	(53)				
Deighton Sch CCM 11-18	80	18.5	1.0	204	43.8	97	(49)	(49)			
De Aston Sch VC C M 11-18	106	16.3	0.3	180	39.2	97	(49)	(42)			
Robert Pattison Sch GCM 11-18	137	18.1	7	188	37.8	98	(51)	(37)			
Lincoln Clarke Hospital Sch CCM 11-18	71	19.8	1.1	171	41.8	98	(48)	(20)			
North Westwood (HS) Sch GCM 11-18	137	18.1	0.6	186	38.4	99	(51)	(53)			
Glend Girtle Sch GCM 11-18	0.0	0.6	108	31.9	94	(37)	(44)				



Eye for detail: this kind of intense focus ensured that Withington Girls' School in Fallowfield topped the listings for Manchester with a perfect 100 per cent

School	6th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	
Canon Patern Catholic Sch CCM 11-18	69	16.1	0.3	182	41.1	95 (47) (50)	47
Catharm HS CCM 11-18	33	12.5	0.4	175	38.7	94 (40) (42)	41
Woolley HS CCM 11-18	48	13.5	0.3	175	36.4	96 (38) (34)	39
Halswell Forest HS CCM 11-18	43	11.8	0.4	157	32.7	97 (23) (33)	36
Leedsford Sch of Science and Tech CCM 11-18	46	7.4	0.4	199	35.1	99 (31) (33)	34
Mayfield HS CCM 11-18	40	8.6	1.5	192	30.2	90 (39) (36)	33
LEA averages	40	15.5	0.5	42.5	97.7	(50.8) (52.5)	54.7

RICHMOND-UPON-THAMES

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Lady Eleanor Hall's Sch ISG 6-19	99	34.6	8	99	71.2	100 (100) (96)	100	
St James Inf Sch for Boys I B S 10-19	18	18.8	8	19	61.3	100 (61) (96)	100	
Royal Ballet Sch ISM 11-19	6	11.7	0.0	20	54.1	100 (73) (96)	100	
St Paul's Sch ISB 7-19	160	31.3	0.0	146	73.9	100 (98) (100)	99	
Hampton Sch ISB 10-19	129	32.4	8	145	63.1	99 (97) (98)	99	
St Catherine's Catholic Sch ISG 2-17	-	-	-	0.0	20	54.5	96 (73) (81)	96
Waldgrove Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	-	-	-	0.4	183	47.4	97 (85) (83)	71
Tuffenham Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.2	240	46.3	96 (65) (61)	64
Grey Court Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.6	186	47.0	99 (55) (52)	48
Shore Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.7	197	36.5	96 (49) (49)	49
Ormeau Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	185	38.3	96 (41) (46)	46
Redbury Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.3	137	38.0	99 (33) (49)	42
Whitton Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.5	137	38.0	90 (40) (34)	34
Chesham Sch VA CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	105	30.3	96 (23) (22)	20
Harrold Sch ISM 4-16	-	-	-	8	8	100 (94) (94)	9	
Swadlow Sch ISM 3-19	-	-	-	0.0	10	15.6	95 (94) (94)	94
LEA averages	154	1.0	39.8	96.4	(52.2) (46.5)	50.6		

SUTTON

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Hamstead HS for Girls GMSG 11-18	116	26.1	8	134	63.4	100 (95) (97)	99	
Sutton ISG 4-18	66	24.7	0.0	71	65.6	100 (100) (99)	99	
Whitton Sch GM 5 B 11-18	110	26.2	4	121	63.5	98 (98) (97)	98	
Wallington HS for Girls GSG 11-18	136	21.8	8	136	62.2	100 (98) (97)	98	
Wallington Co Gram Sch GSB 11-18	87	25.2	8	121	58.8	96 (94) (94)	94	
Sutton Gram Sch for Boys GSB 11-18	87	25.2	0.1	109	57.5	100 (83) (83)	84	
John Fisher Sch (GM) ISG 11-18	69	14.7	5.7	125	49.2	98 (68) (66)	64	
St Pauline's Catholic HS for Girls GAC 11-18	67	15.1	0.4	140	46.0	100 (86) (81)	83	
Chesham HS GAC 11-18	43	11.6	0.2	224	39.0	97 (32) (46)	46	
Greenhouse HS CCM 11-18	45	10.1	0.1	185	36.7	96 (36) (36)	36	
Carshalton HS (Bore) CCG 11-18	78	11.5	0.2	132	34.8	92 (36) (26)	26	
Glathorne HS CCM 11-18	22	11.6	0.3	163	35.0	97 (41) (38)	41	
Stanley Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.3	132	27.6	86 (24) (14)	23
Carshalton HS (Bore) CCG 11-18	14	4.6	1.5	154	33.7	93 (19) (22)	23	
Stowford ISM 7-17	-	-	-	0.1	8	15.6	95 (17) (13)	13
Ormeau Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.3	8	15.6	99 (94) (94)	94
LEA averages	233	0.9	43.5	95.5	(66.4) (54.7)	57.3		

SOUTHWARK

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
James Allen's Girls' Sch ISG 4-19	95	28.2	8	101	71.2	100 (99) (99)	100	
Dulwich Coll ISB 7-19	193	24.6	8	185	64.4	98 (96) (96)	97	
Albany Sch ISM 5-18	125	23.0	8	142	57.6	95 (97) (97)	94	
Notre Dame Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	3	113	43.1	99 (50) (47)	47
Bacon's Coll CT CCM 11-18	31	13.1	0.6	167	39.7	97 (33) (40)	40	
St Thomas the Apostle GM Coll GCB 11-18	-	-	-	0.2	110	34.7	100 (38) (33)	34
St Michael's RC Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.3	113	36.7	94 (36) (33)	33
St Andrew's RC Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.9	102	35.9	96 (26) (26)	26
Sacred Heart RC Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	104	40.2	100 (35) (44)	44
St Saviour's and St Elizabeth's VA CCG 11-18	9	4.9	0.1	104	40.2	100 (35) (44)	44	
Waverley Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	1.8	117	33.2	100 (17) (17)	17
Albany Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	1.9	112	27.5	100 (20) (15)	21
Gayfield Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	4.3	120	26.0	96 (22) (22)	22
Godfrey Chesser Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	4.5	137	23.6	96 (11) (13)	13
Walsworth Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	4.5	137	23.7	94 (28) (28)	28
Warwick Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	4.2	137	23.7	94 (28) (28)	28
Archbishop Michael Ramsey Tech Coll VA CCM 11-18	4	7.0	6.2	21.5	81	118	(13) (13)	13
Kingston Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.8	146	21.0	87 (18) (20)	20
Delwich HS for Boys CCB 11-18	-	-	-	4.2	80	15.8	89 (22) (9)	9
LEA averages	90	2.6	29.2	93.6	(24.6) (27.2)	28.1		

TOWER HAMLETS

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Methury Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	51	11.8	0.6	212	42.2	100 (39) (38)	39	
Raines Foundation Sch GM CCM 11-18	20	13.6	2.0	148	37.1	96 (28) (27)	28	
Bethnal Green Tech Coll CCM 11-18	-	-	-	3.0	107	33.8	100 (23) (24)	23
Meadow Sch (London) ISG 9-18	-	-	-	0.0	15	33.1	100 (96) (95)	95
Stamford Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	2.5	136	32.6	93 (28) (29)	28
Stoney Hill Sch CCG 11-18	-	-	-	2.6	136	32.6	93 (28) (29)	28
Stoney Hill Sch VA CCG 11-18	26	6.7	1.8	134	30.9	99 (25) (26)	25	
Central Foundation Sch VA CCG 11-18	14	8.6	2.2	170	33.1	90 (29) (29)	29	
Morpeth Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.0	133	28.7	100 (21) (21)	21
St Paul's Way Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	4.2	167	28.5	96 (19) (21)	21
Delwich Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	3.0	105	27.8	98 (17) (19)	19
Stanton Hill Sch VA CCG 11-18	-	-	-	1.6	183	32.4	97 (16) (16)	16
George Green's Sch CCM 11-18	18	10.6	1.9	119	29.8	97 (26) (27)	26	
St John's Caxton Sch VA CCG 11-18	2	5.0	2.1	125	28.7	100 (14) (11)	22	
Langton Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	101	22.8	92 (22) (24)	24
Shannon John Fisher Catholic Sch VA CCB 11-18	8	5.6	2.0	111	22.8	96 (17) (21)	14	
Bow Sch CCB 11-18	-	-	-	-7.4	120	16.8	89 (11) (22)	11
LEA averages	105	2.7	30.3	95.0	(23.9) (25.7)	27.8		

WALTHAM FOREST

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Forest Sch ISM 7-18	136	26.9	8	158	57.3	97 (91) (91)	92	
Highbury Park Sch GAC 11-18	62	16.6	0.3	226	42.3	99 (63) (56)	59	
Coventry Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	-	-	-	0.1	132	44.5	100 (46) (46)	46
Walthamstow Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	-	-	-	1.6	181	41.6	97 (33) (33)	33
Romford Sch INM 2-16	-	-	-	0.1	11	30.5	82 (18) (25)	18
Claydon Sch GAC 11-18	-	-	-	1.9	136	35.7	98 (33) (36)	34
Avonley Park Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.2	111	32.2	95 (32) (41)	41
Leytonstone Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.0	173	33.2	91 (27) (27)	27

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Withington Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.6	113	33.2	98 (34) (30)	30
Holy Family Coll VA CCM 11-18	35	11.9	2.1	146	37.4	97 (27) (27)	27	
Radcliffe Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.5	108	35.4	94 (26) (26)	26
Radcliffe Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.4	104	34.3	93 (31) (32)	30
Headcliffe Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	8.1	100	33.0	96 (37) (32)	32
Northgate Sch for Boys CCB 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	114	31.1	97 (39) (39)	39
Tom Hood Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.9	175	25.0	91 (14) (20)	21
George Mitchell Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.7	106	28.6	94 (28) (28)	28
Worsley Sch for Boys CCB 11-18	-	-	-	2.8	89	26.8	84 (14) (20)	21
McIntosh Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	7.7	159	17.9	75 (17) (20)	16
LEA averages	13.0	2.3	33.0	92.3	(33.4) (25.5)	37.2		

WANDSWORTH

School	6th form			GCSE				
	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E	Passes	Grades A-C	Grades D-E		
Blackthorn Sch ISM 3-16	-	-	-	8	36	56.3	100 (97) (100)	100
Piney Hill ISG 4-19	66	24.0	0.1	85	62.8	100 (100) (100)	100	
Putney Park Sch ISM 4-16	-	-	-	0.0	9	53.0	100 (82) (94)	88
Emmanuel Sch ISM 10-19	75	15.7	8	119	53.4	97 (88) (90)	88	
ADY Coll CT CCM 11-18	40	15.8	8	147	51.2	100 (49) (58)	58	
St Andrew's Sch GM CCM 11-18	37	19.9	0.8	237	42.2	100 (49) (52)	52	
Upper Tooting Inf HS ISG 2-16	107	17.1	8	126	48.8	97 (57) (51)	51	
St Andrew's Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	8	34	100	(67) (67)	67
Elmfield Sch (GM) GM CCM 11-18	66	18.1	2.0	169	34.6	92 (36) (42)	43	
John Paul II Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.6	107	34.0	89 (35) (34)	36
Christ the King Sch CCM 11-18	11	6.2	1.9	135	26.8	93 (15) (18)	18	
St George's Sch Wandsworth Sch CCM 11-18	31	10.5	1.9	136	27.2	95 (21) (21)	21	
Salefield Sch GM CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.2	116	30.7	95 (34) (28)	28
Southfields Comm Coll (GM) GM CCM 11-18	27	10.6	4.2	172	28.1	99 (24) (21)	24	
Buttress Tech Coll CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.9	81	15.5	95 (6) (6)	6

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like London Sch, Northampton HS, and various secondary schools.



A-level science students experiment in the laboratory at Northampton Grammar School, which achieved a GCSE pass rate of 93 per cent

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like St Oswald's Sch, Langridge Towers Sch, and various secondary schools.

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like Northampton HS, Northampton Grammar Sch, and various secondary schools.

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like Toot Hill Comp Sch, Brampton Hills Comp Sch, and various secondary schools.

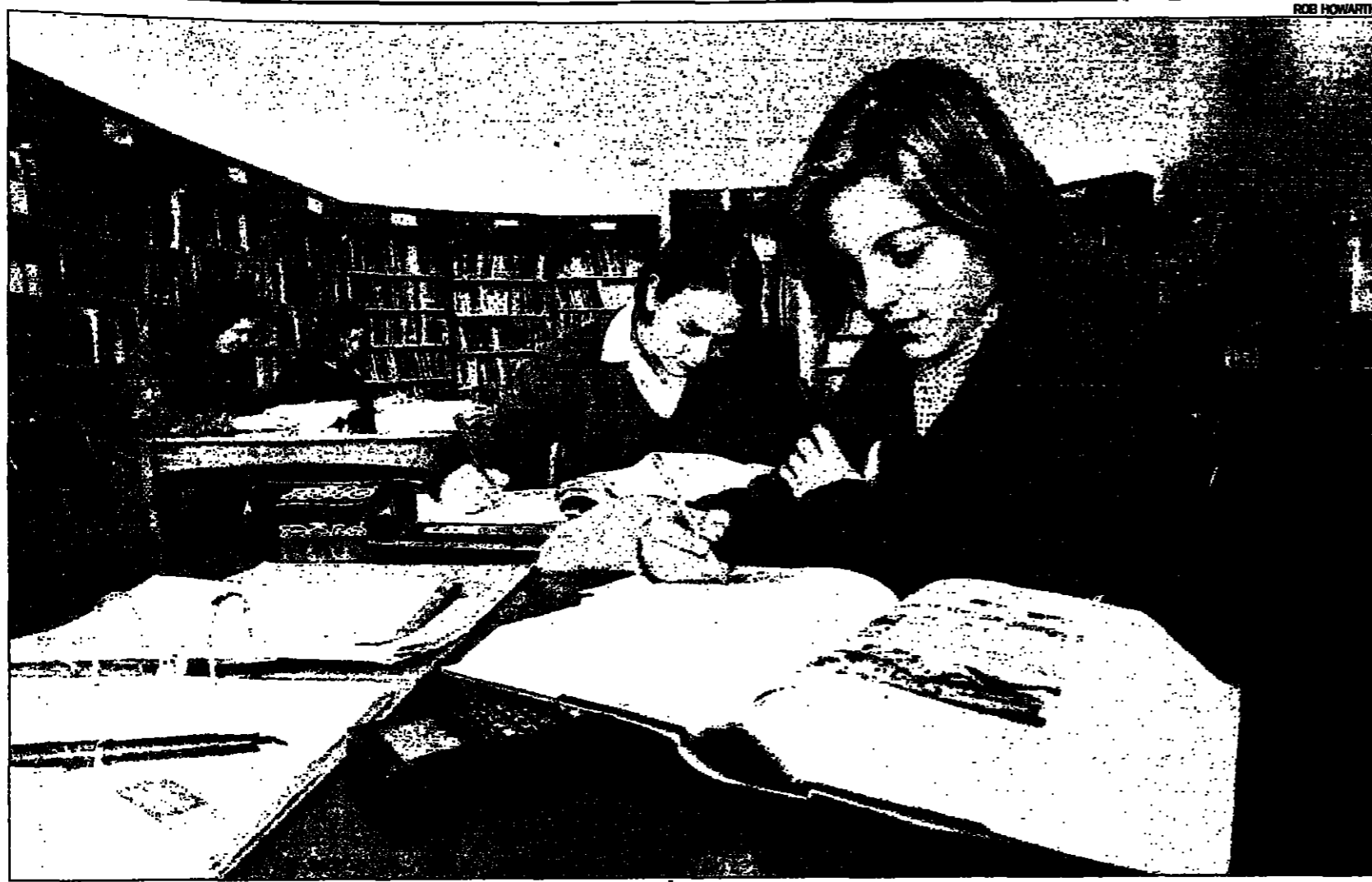
Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like South Aishorn Sch, Huddersfield Sch, and various secondary schools.

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like Nottingham HS, Nottingham Grammar Sch, and various secondary schools.

Table with columns for school names, 6th form, and GCSE results. Includes schools like Oxfordshire Sch, Oxford HS, and various secondary schools.

Handwritten text or signature in the right margin.

Handwritten text or signature at the bottom right.



Girls at Ipswich High School, top of the table in Suffolk, concentrating on their GCSE studies in the school library.

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Concord Hill Sch CCM 11-18	71	13.9	0.4	206	38.3	98 (47) (41) 46	
Walsingham Sch CCM 11-18	56	15.6	0.9	158	36.8	97 (56) (51) 46	
Worthington Sch VC CCM 11-18	42	14.0	0.5	154	40.2	98 (52) (44) 45	
Cooper Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.8	186	35.9	96 (35) 45
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	47	20.2	0.9	147	39.1	96 (24) (29) 46	
Larkmead Sch CCM 11-18	37	14.5	2.5	180	35.2	93 (38) (37) 45	
Millton Park Sch CCM 11-18	28	12.2	2.4	70	32.5	83 (28) (31) 43	
Northwood Sch CCM 11-18	46	15.2	0.6	137	38.7	97 (45) (36) 42	
Chipping Norton Sch CCM 11-18	57	15.2	0.4	168	34.9	95 (45) (49) 41	
John Mason Sch CCM 11-18	42	14.9	0.9	159	36.2	91 (43) (47) 39	
Colchester Sch CCM 11-18	38	11.6	0.0	44	28.1	82 (48) (54) 39	
Wingsham Sch CCM 11-18	9	4.7	0.6	32	24.8	69 (28) (41) 37	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	106	16.4	2.0	211	35.1	91 (41) (43) 36	
Islefield Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.8	58	32.9	83 (28) (42) 38
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	40	14.6	1.2	168	34.5	89 (34) (41) 34	
St Augustine's Sch CCM 11-18	31	12.5	4.3	175	31.7	83 (40) (40) 34	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	12	11.0	0.0	35	26.9	77 (31) (42) 34	
Chenny Sch CCM 11-18	46	14.9	0.8	236	33.5	87 (33) (30) 32	
Orton Sch CCM 11-18	34	10.6	2.7	88	29.3	73 (34) (38) 29	
Peers Sch CCM 11-18	32	15.6	5.6	73	24.8	67 (28) (31) 27	
Orpington Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	5.0	121	17.2	79 (20) (22) 9
Abbots Sch CCM 11-18	19	14.1	0.0	5	17.0	10 (14) (17) 9	
Hilbert Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.9	1	0.0	0 (0) (0) 0
St George's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.5	1	0.0	0 (0) (0) 0
LEA averages	153	1.5	37.7	94.0	45.8	47.2	46.5

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
West End Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	3.7	179	25.7	87 (27) (22) 28
Gifford Sch CCM 11-18	78	27.4	8	240	27.8	97 (20) (26) 28	
St Peter's Sch VC CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	83	24.9	93 (18) (23) 19
Rosecroft Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	111	27.4	96 (12) (18) 18
De Winton Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	3.0	76	22.6	78 (17) 17
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	31	16.5	0.4	54	46.4	93 (28) (32) 28	
LEA averages	17.0	1.3	33.9	32.1	37.5	38.4	38.8

PETERBOROUGH

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
King's Sch GCM 11-18	122	22.8	0.1	128	57.6	100 (82) (85) 88	
Peterborough Sch GCM 11-18	24	16.9	0.0	25	50.8	96 (88) (83) 84	
Arthur Watson Sch GCM 11-18	80	14.9	0.3	200	40.4	98 (46) (46) 53	
Jack Hunt Sch GCM 11-18	111	19.5	0.5	238	41.2	94 (67) (52) 51	
Deacons Sch GCM 11-18	67	21.1	0.5	138	38.9	97 (65) (47) 51	
St John Fisher Sch GCM 11-18	20	12.7	0.2	107	35.4	87 (37) (41) 41	
King William Sch GCM 11-18	25	13.7	1.1	119	32.5	95 (44) (35) 41	
Bretton Woods Sch GCM 11-18	37	11.9	3.1	157	35.4	97 (38) (34) 37	
Stratford Sch GCM 11-18	66	10.0	1.4	253	37.2	93 (32) (40) 35	
Wagon Sch GCM 11-18	54	12.7	1.6	239	31.3	97 (31) 35	
Buckfield Sch GCM 11-18	22	17.2	0.4	44	24.8	87 (22) (23) 23	
Orton Longueville Sch GCM 11-18	54	15.1	0.5	158	26.6	96 (43) (43) 32	
John Mansfield Sch CCM 11-18	9	11.1	1.4	118	32.9	87 (28) (27) 28	
Harwood Sch CCM 11-18	10	13.6	4.8	103	25.4	77 (19) (14) 13	
LEA averages	151	1.5	12	35.5	52.7	41	41.3

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Wentley Sch CCM 11-18	69	19.0	0.3	222	39.9	93 (64) (58) 55	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	124	16.8	0.4	213	35.1	95 (49) (45) 46	
Beach House Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	8	11	35.8	100 (47) (56) 46
Widdowson Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.5	135	31.9	91 (36) (34) 44
St John's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	86	36.5	94 (35) (37) 44
St Catherine's Sch CCM 11-18	59	13.1	3.2	226	36.3	92 (38) (47) 42	
Canterbury Sch CCM 11-18	51	12.7	1.1	176	36.2	96 (40) (40) 42	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	31	9.4	0.8	167	37.2	94 (34) (34) 41	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	66	20.1	0.2	71	46.5	96 (72) (77) 77	
Highdown Sch CCM 11-18	49	13.3	1.8	152	32.9	91 (40) (35) 40	
Reading Sch CCM 11-18	9	15.1	0.3	61	34.5	87 (19) (24) 38	
Princess Sch CCM 11-18	31	9.4	0.8	167	37.2	94 (34) (34) 41	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.2	96	33.7	92 (30) (41) 34
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	26	6.2	2.8	123	26.5	90 (25) (24) 17	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	4	7.0	3.3	108	17.9	93 (10) (6) 18	
LEA averages	17.0	1.6	37.7	88.9	41.3	42.7	

CITY OF PLYMOUTH

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Development Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	94	22.1	0.1	95	65.0	100 (99) (99) 99	
Development Sch for Boys GMS 11-18	42	27.6	0.1	134	58.2	99 (99) (95) 96	
St Dunstons Abbey Sch CCG 11-18	9	21.4	0.0	28	54.8	100 (92) (86) 86	
Phymouth Sch for Girls CCG 11-18	56	21.5	0.1	96	59.5	99 (91) (83) 83	
Phymouth Sch CCM 11-18	79	22.7	0.1	91	56.6	98 (88) (88) 88	
Niche Dome Sch VC CCG 11-18	49	20.7	0.4	120	44.7	97 (56) (55) 64	
Phymouth Sch CCM 11-18	69	15.5	0.2	252	43.2	99 (46) (53) 62	
Hepworth Sch CCM 11-18	39	17.3	0.1	203	41.3	100 (63) (56) 59	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	29	15.6	0.4	234	41.3	100 (54) (51) 53	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	31	19.4	0.3	117	43.5	97 (47) (56) 50	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	54	15.5	0.6	129	37.4	98 (55) (45) 50	
Hedgeway Sch CCM 11-18	52	13.3	0.9	172	41.0	97 (48) (46) 45	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	25	10.8	1.3	181	34.4	99 (33) (30) 33	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	29	11.7	1.4	224	30.0	96 (29) (23) 23	
St John's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	5.9	31.2	97 (28) (28) 28	
Lipson Sch CCM 11-18	35	14.1	0.5	170	25.1	96 (28) (21) 21	
John Kitz Sch CCM 11-18	45	14.6	1.0	256	25.1	99 (19) (19) 19	
Tamarine Sch CCM 11-18	21	16.9	0.1	230	26.8	96 (19) (22) 19	
Southway Sch CCM 11-18	29	8.7	0.8	145	26.3	95 (16) (16) 16	
Partridge Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.9	37	19.4	89 (9) (9) 9
Immanuel Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	2.5	1	0.0	0 (0) (0) 0
LEA averages	19.0	0.7	36.8	94.6	41.3	42.8	

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Old Hall Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.1	206	40.3	100 (54) (51) 53
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.4	2	21.5	100 (40) (38) 38
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	124	16.8	0.4	213	35.1	95 (49) (45) 46	
Beach House Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	8	11	35.8	100 (47) (56) 46
Widdowson Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.5	135	31.9	91 (36) (34) 44
St John's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	86	36.5	94 (35) (37) 44
St Catherine's Sch CCM 11-18	59	13.1	3.2	226	36.3	92 (38) (47) 42	
Canterbury Sch CCM 11-18	51	12.7	1.1	176	36.2	96 (40) (40) 42	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	31	9.4	0.8	167	37.2	94 (34) (34) 41	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	66	20.1	0.2	71	46.5	96 (72) (77) 77	
Highdown Sch CCM 11-18	49	13.3	1.8	152	32.9	91 (40) (35) 40	
Reading Sch CCM 11-18	9	15.1	0.3	61	34.5	87 (19) (24) 38	
Princess Sch CCM 11-18	31	9.4	0.8	167	37.2	94 (34) (34) 41	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.2	96	33.7	92 (30) (41) 34
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	26	6.2	2.8	123	26.5	90 (25) (24) 17	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	4	7.0	3.3	108	17.9	93 (10) (6) 18	
LEA averages	15.1	2.0	31.5	91.6	43.4	43.1	

POOLE

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Parkstone Sch (Girls) GMS 12-18	129	26.8	0.1	164	66.1	100 (99) (99) 99	
Poole Gram Sch GMS 12-18	153	24.1	0.1	139	63.6	100 (97) (97) 97	
Canford Sch C 12-18	122	21.9	0.0	95	58.9	91 (88) (85) 85	
Uphurst Sch C 12-18	-	-	-	0.0	25	43.5	100 (87) (87) 87
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	216	18.5	0.4	138	47.7	98 (52) (52) 52	
Canford Sch CCM 11-18	216	18.5	0.3	377	44.0	98 (71) (62) 56	
Poole Sch CCM 11-18	27	12.0	0.0	291	35.1	96 (36) (32) 43	
Acton Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.7	166	32.7	98 (44) (29) 46
Martin Sch CCM 11-18	2	8.0	1.6	199	28.4	91 (16) (22) 24	
Canford Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.7	103	22.4	94 (15) (17) 18
LEA averages	17.7	0.6	41.6	56.6	41.3	33.2	

School	5th form			GCSE			
	Passes	Grades	Average	Passes	Grades	Average	
Old Hall Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.1	206	40.3	100 (54) (51) 53
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	0.4	2	21.5	100 (40) (38) 38
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	124	16.8	0.4	213	35.1	95 (49) (45) 46	
Beach House Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	8	11	35.8	100 (47) (56) 46
Widdowson Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.5	135	31.9	91 (36) (34) 44
St John's Sch CCM 11-18	-	-	-	1.1	86	36.5	94 (35) (37) 44
St Catherine's Sch CCM 11-18	59	13.1	3.2	226	36.3	92 (38) (47) 42	
Canterbury Sch CCM 11-18	51	12.7	1.1	176	36.2	96 (40) (40) 42	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	31	9.4	0.8	167	37.2	94 (34) (34) 41	
St Andrew's Sch CCM 11-18	66	20.1	0.2	71	46.5	96 (72) (77) 77	
Highdown Sch CCM 11-18	49	13.3	1.8	152	32.9	91 (40	

The Government sent in heavies to clean up underperforming schools but, says Victoria Fletcher, things are even worse

Hit squad fails to save Hackney

THE failing local education authority which had a government hit squad sent in to assess the service it provides to its schools, has conceded a bad end to its 'annus horribilis'. This year's local authority tables show attainment in its schools has dropped dramatically while truancy has increased.

Hackney Local Education Authority, which had an 'improvement team' drafted in to help, could now be edging dangerously close to more government intervention based on its continued poor performance.

Fewer than three months ago, the Government suggested that its schools could be turned into an education action zone run by a private company if the standards did not improve.

Despite gaining a tough new director of education, Hackney has dropped even lower on this year's LEA table and suffered a significant drop from 1997 in the results achieved in its schools. Last year, 30.4 per cent of Hackney schools achieved five A-C grades at GCSE. This year the number has dropped to just 26.5 per cent.

However, Ian Peacock, the chair of Hackney's Education Committee, said improvement at Hackney schools would be slow. "The GCSE results were something of a mixed bag this year. Some did well but where there was not sufficient im-

provement we are disappointed," he said. But Mr Peacock remains confident that the follow-up Ofsted inspection of the authority next Easter will find an overall improvement. "We are hopeful when Ofsted come back they will see further improvements and they will see that the LEA is now meeting the statutory responsibilities for schools which it was failing to do 18 months ago," he says.

Ironically, a local authority sitting even lower than Hackney,

It could now be edging dangerously close to more government intervention

right at the bottom of the table, has some reason to be happy with its achievement.

Although the worst in the country, the City of Kingston-upon-Hull has managed to raise its tally of achieving five GCSE A-C grades by 1.4 per cent to 22.8 per cent this year.

Alongside this, a scheme to tackle truancy in its schools also appears to be having an effect. Pupils with behavioural or attendance problems at secondary school now have to attend six weeks of intensive help from 'impact centres'.

Last year, Hull's 16 secondary

schools had pupils missing an average of 4.1 half days each, but this year, the figure has dropped to 3.7 half-days.

The Isles of Scilly still top the table, thanks to the 21 pupils at their only secondary school who achieved 67 per cent A-C passes, a rise of nearly six per cent on last year's results.

Holding firmly to the other top slots on the table, meanwhile, are local authorities with large numbers of selective schools.

One of the best increases in pupil results was in Hertfordshire, where the number of pupils achieving A-C at GCSE rose from 50.2 per cent last year to 54.0 per cent this year.

Bob Mays, the chairman of Hertfordshire Education Committee, says the upturn is the result of a two-year overhaul of the education department.

"This is the first year we have not made any budget cuts to schools in four years. We have also re-organised the advisory service, as the LEA has become less conservative and more open to change," he adds.

Mr Mays says that the shire was one of the best funded in the country and, of the authority's 80 secondary schools, only two are now failing.

He added that one of the failing schools had this year been closed in an attempt to continue to tackle the problem of schools which were producing poor results.



Gunning for change: the hit squad sent in by the Government to try to improve standards at Hackney's problem schools

LOCAL AUTHORITY PERFORMANCE

	A level	GCSE/ GNCQ avg	GCSE 1-A-G	Truancy	GCSE 97 5-A-C	GCSE 98 5-A-C
Isles of Scilly	-	47.0	100.0	0.4	61.1	66.7
Hackney	20.2	42.9	95.2	0.4	97.7	92.5
Kingston upon Thames	15.6	43.1	92.5	0.8	57.5	58.6
Sutton	20.3	43.5	95.5	0.5	54.7	57.9
Windsor and Maidenhead	16.8	42.0	97.3	0.5	-	57.2
North Yorkshire	19.7	41.2	98.2	0.4	54.0	56.9
Barnet	16.7	41.8	93.5	0.9	52.0	50.3
Walsingham	16.1	40.7	96.0	0.4	-	56.2
Bromley	15.9	41.4	96.5	0.6	52.7	55.4
Redbridge	15.5	42.5	97.7	0.5	52.5	54.7
Gloucestershire	18.4	41.2	96.2	0.4	51.6	54.7
West Berkshire	16.3	40.3	97.0	0.4	-	54.5
Tralford	21.3	39.7	94.2	0.8	51.6	54.3
Hertfordshire	18.4	40.2	95.6	0.7	50.7	53.0
Surrey	19.7	40.9	94.9	0.5	51.0	53.6
Shropshire	17.9	40.9	97.5	0.7	-	53.3
Bath and NE Somerset	15.5	40.2	96.5	0.5	51.3	53.2
Teale	17.7	41.6	96.6	0.6	50.7	53.2
Cheshire	19.7	40.1	96.3	0.7	-	53.0
Harrow	13.4	40.2	95.7	0.8	53.4	52.8
Solihull	16.2	39.1	95.9	0.6	51.2	52.2
North Somerset	17.2	39.1	96.8	1.1	50.9	52.0
Wiltshire	17.4	40.0	95.2	0.6	51.9	51.9
West Sussex	16.6	40.3	95.3	0.6	50.3	51.7
Cambridgeshire	19.7	40.2	95.3	0.8	-	51.6
Sussex	17.1	40.0	96.7	0.7	48.9	51.2
Hampshire	17.7	40.3	96.3	0.9	49.4	51.2
Corwall	17.8	39.9	97.4	0.4	48.8	51.1
Richmond-upon-Thames	15.4	39.8	96.4	1.0	46.5	50.6
Stockport	16.5	37.2	95.0	1.3	50.2	50.6
Havering	16.9	38.7	92.8	0.8	46.1	49.1
Dorset	17.5	39.4	95.7	0.6	49.8	50.0
Suffolk	15.8	40.1	96.2	0.7	47.4	49.4
Nant	17.1	38.1	95.1	0.6	-	49.2
Bournemouth	20.8	39.3	94.9	1.1	47.6	49.2
City of York	19.6	38.5	95.0	0.7	51.4	49.4
Essex	17.4	39.0	95.3	0.8	-	48.6
Warrington	17.8	38.6	96.7	0.5	-	48.4
Lincolnshire	19.2	37.5	94.4	0.9	46.7	48.4
Southern-on-Sea	18.3	38.4	93.8	0.7	-	48.0
Torkey	18.2	37.1	93.8	0.7	-	48.0
Berkley	16.0	38.0	95.8	0.6	44.5	47.5
Hertfordshire	17.2	37.6	94.8	0.6	-	47.5
Bury	15.9	38.4	96.7	0.7	47.8	47.8
Devon	16.3	38.4	96.1	0.7	-	47.0
East Riding of Yorkshire	16.8	37.3	95.0	0.9	44.3	47.0
Leicestershire	19.8	37.6	94.9	0.9	-	47.0
East Sussex	14.9	38.0	94.6	1.3	45.5	46.9
Hampshire	17.5	38.6	94.6	0.8	44.5	46.6
Hemel Hempstead	15.4	37.2	95.4	1.0	44.1	46.5
Oxfordshire	15.3	37.7	94.0	1.5	47.2	46.5
Warwickshire	16.6	37.1	94.8	0.8	44.5	46.0
Norfolk	16.2	36.6	94.5	0.9	44.6	46.0
Camden	14.8	36.3	93.6	1.8	47.8	45.8
Derbyshire	17.9	37.1	95.2	1.1	43.5	45.8
Leicestershire	16.7	36.4	94.3	2.1	44.7	45.3
Worcestershire	16.9	36.4	93.0	1.0	-	45.7
Northamptonshire	15.5	37.7	92.5	2.4	43.9	45.4
Bradford	15.5	36.7	95.2	0.6	-	45.4
Halifax and Wigan	19.0	37.6	94.2	0.9	-	45.4
Wirral	18.3	36.5	92.1	0.9	44.5	45.3
South Gloucestershire	16.1	37.3	94.9	1.1	44.6	45.1
Northumberland	17.9	36.9	94.0	1.1	43.2	45.1
Staffordshire	16.4	36.4	94.9	0.6	45.0	45.0
Brent	14.2	36.7	94.2	0.7	44.8	44.8
Essex	13.8	36.5	94.3	1.5	37.9	44.6
North Tyneside	15.5	36.3	93.2	1.2	42.7	44.5
Northamptonshire	15.1	37.5	95.1	0.9	42.2	44.5
Sefton	17.6	37.5	94.3	0.7	45.0	44.4
Dudley	17.4	35.2	94.7	0.7	42.5	44.3
Hillingdon	14.3	36.5	93.3	1.4	40.4	44.0
Rutland	17.7	37.0	97.9	0.7	40.0	44.0
Cumbria	18.1	36.1	94.2	0.6	43.5	44.0
Medway Towns	15.9	35.8	94.6	0.9	-	43.8
Swindon	15.8	35.0	94.4	0.8	43.0	43.0
City of Plymouth	18.0	36.8	94.8	0.7	43.5	43.5
Hammersmith and Fulham	18.4	36.2	93.5	2.9	40.1	43.2
Wigan	17.2	36.7	94.2	1.3	44.8	43.2
Slough	16.4	36.7	96.5	1.2	-	42.9
Reading	17.0	37.7	95.9	1.6	-	42.7
Huntingdonshire	15.7	35.2	93.7	1.6	42.7	42.7
Brighton and Hove	16.7	34.7	92.1	1.2	40.1	42.2
North Lincolnshire	18.5	36.0	96.1	1.1	39.7	41.8
Enfield	15.6	35.3	94.6	1.1	42.3	41.5
Pearborough	16.1	35.2	92.7	1.2	41.3	41.3
Southampton	14.5	35.5	94.9	1.2	40.9	41.4
Bolton	16.7	34.7	94.4	1.8	40.0	40.3
Stockton-on-Tees	19.2	34.3	91.3	0.9	39.1	40.0
Kirkcaldy	19.2	34.0	91.9	1.5	39.5	39.8
Isle of Wight	16.1	35.1	92.9	1.0	43.9	39.8
Cashead	15.6	35.5	90.3	1.6	39.2	39.6
Croydon	14.2	34.9	92.2	0.6	40.4	39.5
St Helens	19.6	33.9	92.8	0.5	40.2	39.5
Calderdale	17.4	33.7	93.0	0.7	38.2	39.4
Redcar and Cleveland	17.0	33.9	92.1	1.3	38.4	38.8
Wakefield	16.6	33.6	94.2	0.9	37.9	38.7
Tameside	14.3	33.3	94.8	1.2	37.7	38.4
Knowsley	13.8	33.1	93.9	0.9	38.2	38.2
City of Derby	18.4	33.1	90.8	2.2	38.3	38.0
Sheffield	18.4	33.1	90.8	2.2	38.3	38.0
Leeds	18.2	32.5	90.1	1.9	37.4	37.9
Merton	13.2	33.1	92.3	2.8	37.5	37.3
Waltham Forest	13.0	33.0	92.3	2.3	37.5	37.2
Covey	15.3	32.6	91.4	1.4	36.9	37.1
Dartington	18.0	33.1	89.8	1.6	37.5	37.1
Oldham	16.6	32.6	90.7	1.9	36.8	36.9
South Tyneside	13.0	33.5	93.8	0.3	35.7	36.9
Rotherham	17.1	32.7	91.1	1.5	37.4	36.8
Rochdale	15.1	31.5	91.6	2.0	36.5	36.1
Birmingham	15.8	32.1	91.9	1.8	35.3	35.9
Blackburn with Darwen	16.8	33.7	93.6	1.4	-	35.8
Durham	16.5	33.0	92.4	1.5	36.3	35.7
Luton	14.1	35.9	97.9	0.9	34.3	35.0
Wolverhampton	14.0	31.5	91.2	1.6	33.1	34.8
City of Leicester	14.5	33.0	91.1	1.9	33.8	34.8
Wandsworth	13.9	32.7	93.3	1.8	35.0	34.7
Walsall	17.3	31.8	92.8	1.0	33.8	34.6
Harrogate	15.1	32.6	92.0	2.6	29.1	34.6
City of London	15.3	35.2	93.6	0.8	35.0	34.6
Wendlebury	16.1	31.6	93.1	1.6	-	34.6
Wenminster	13.0	30.3	87.3	3.2	34.1	34.5
Thames	14.4	33.4	92.9	1.6	-	34.5
Dunstable	15.3	31.1	89.7	2.1	33.8	34.1
Newham	11.5	33.4	96.8	3.2	33.4	34.0
Halton	16.5	32.2	92.6	1.2	-	33.8
Salford	13.5	30.7	93.9	1.2	30.7	33.3
Greenwich	14.1	30.8	89.9	2.3	30.7	33.3
North East Lincolnshire	12.5	31.6	90.0	2.5	30.8	33.1
Leicester	13.6	31.1	94.1	2.5	29.4	32.8
Stoke-on-Trent	17.9	30.4	91.8	1.1	30.5	32.6
Sunderland	13.4	32.3	94.1	1.2	34.6	32.3
Stocking and Digbyham	12.7	30.1	92.7	2.0	28.9	32.7
Newcastle upon Tyne	13.9	29.5	87.9	1.5	31.6	31.0
Liverpool	15.3	28.7	88.1	2.3	30.1	30.9
Portsmouth	14.5	30.0	88.0	2.0	31.6	30.7
Barnsley	16.0	29.3	90.3	1.9	28.6	29.8
Bradford	15.4	28.3	89.0	2.1	28.9	29.6
Southwark	9.0	29.2	93.8	2.6	27.2	29.1
City of Bristol	13.6	28.9	89.1	1.8	32.1	29.0
Lambeth	11.8	31.1	94.2	1.6	28.6	28.8
Reading	12.3	28.7	90.3	1.9	28.9	28.7
Manchester	14.6	27.6	87.3	2.8	28.3	28.7
Tower Hamlets	10.5	30.3	87.0	2.7	25.7	27.6
Middlesbrough	15.6	27.5	87.8	1.6	28.5	27.5
Haringey	13.2	27.2	92.2	1.9	28.7	28.6
Hackney	10.4	29.8	92.9	2.3	30.4	28.5
City of Nottingham	14.3	26.0	86.5	3.7	-	26.1
Islington	12.1	26.4	90.2	2.7	24.9	23.3
Knowsley	10.8	24.9	83.8	3.2	23.4	22.9
City of Kingston-upon-Hull	15.2	25.4	86.6	3.7	22.8	22.8
National averages	17.8	37.0	93.4	1.1	45.1	46.3

PROMOTIONAL OFFER THE TIMES Millions of FREE books for schools

COLLINS ESSENTIAL ATLAS OF THE WORLD

Today, *The Times*, with *The Sunday Times* and *Walkers*, offers you the chance to take part in Britain's biggest books giveaway with our Free Books for Schools promotion.

This multi-million pound initiative will give every school the chance to gain a share of the millions of books for children that will be available free in the coming months. Developed in support of the National Year of Reading, which runs to August next year, its aim is simple: to help schools to replenish their libraries so pupils can read more books and expand their imaginations, creativity and curiosity.

Anyone and everyone - parents, pupils, teachers, friends and relatives - can join in the scheme, simply by collecting tokens from *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *Walkers* snacks.

There are more than 150 titles for schools to choose from, including novels, atlases, picture books, audio and braille titles. Each book requires either 100, 250 or 500 tokens. The books are suitable for ages 5 to 16 and are divided into approximate reading abilities from key stage 1 to key stage 4, and P1 to S5 in Scotland.

Participating schools simply select their free books from a list of approved titles and send off enough tokens for their order. Many of the titles can be ordered for as little as 100 tokens each.

Between January and April next year, millions of Free Books for Schools tokens can be found on packets of *Walkers* crisps, *Walkers* Lites, *Quavers*, *Monster Munch*, *French Fries*, *Doritos* and